DAVID DEI GRATIA REX SCOTTORUM
SIGILLUM COMMUNE BURGI DE HADINGTON

REMINISCENCES AND NOTICES

OF

TEN PARISHES

OF THE

COUNTY OF HADDINGTON.

Yours truly
Adam Martsinc

REMINISCENCES AND NOTICES

OF

TEN PARISHES

OF THE

COUNTY OF HADDINGTON

BY THE LATE

JOHN MARTINE,

AUTHOR OF

"REMINISCENCES OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF HADDINGTON,"
"FOURTEEN PARISHES OF THE COUNTY OF HADDINGTON," &C.

EDITED BY

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AUTHOR OF

"EGLINGHAM AND ITS VICINITY," "HISTORY OF CHATTON," &C.

HADDINGTON

WILLIAM SINCLAIR, MARKET STREET

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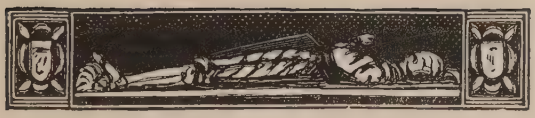

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PREFACE.

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NO apology is required for the publication of this book. It is the continuation and conclusion of a labour of love, undertaken by the late Mr John Martine, who intended to publish reminiscences of every parish in East Lothian. He published two volumes, one dealing with the Burgh of Haddington, the Parish of Morham, and distinguished East Lothian agriculturists ; and the other with fourteen parishes in the county. Mr Martine left behind him the MS. of eight of the ten remaining parishes, Gladsmuir and Oldhamstocks being the two untouched.

P. Ronaldson, Esq., C.A., Edinburgh (Mr Martine's executor), kindly placed the MS. in my hands. After examining it I found that it required some revision. Had he lived Mr Martine would undoubtedly have gone over the MS. another time before sending it to the press.

The work of revision was very kindly undertaken by Mr E. J. Wilson, Schoolhouse, Bolton, who is well-known as an antiquarian, and has now shown himself to have been eminently fitted for this task.

The accounts of the parishes written by Mr Martine have very wisely been allowed to appear in his own inimitable style—quaint, almost obsolete, expressions being retained, which give a finer zest, and, to the modern reader, an original flavour reminiscent of the winter fireside of the homely farm-houses of East Lothian, while at the same time they instruct and delight. The revision has been limited to some corrections in fact, and additions which seemed to be interesting.

Mr Wilson wishes to place on record the assistance he received from the Rev. J. Coullie, B.D., Pencaitland; Rev. T. E. S. Clarke, B.D., Saltoun; Rev. Lothian Gray, Spott; and the Rev. J. Robertson, D.D., Whittinghame.

The descriptions of Gladsmuir and Oldhamstocks Parishes were largely compiled from the sources from which the information contained in the previously described parishes was obtained. Mr Wilson was greatly indebted in his researches to Mr James Winton, Gladsmuir Schoolhouse; the Rev. W. M. Hutton, Oldhamstocks Manse, and Mr Thomas Clark, of Oldhamstocks Mains.

As a fitting conclusion to the work of Mr Martine it

was considered well to have a biographical sketch, and a portrait. For the former we are indebted to Mr Thomas Cowan, Haddington. The latter has been taken from a photograph of a group of nearly fifty people on a cabinet card. Notwithstanding its small size the features were fairly distinct, and when taken in hand by Messrs Young & Irving, Edinburgh, a good likeness was secured. Mr James Lyle, merchant, Edinburgh, to whom Mr Martine's features were very familiar, revised the proof and pronounced the portrait to be an excellent one.

W. S.

Haddington, June 1894.

MEMOIR OF THE AUTHOR.

JOHN MARTINE, author of "Reminiscences of the Royal Burgh of Haddington and Old East Lothian Agriculturists," "Reminiscences of the Town and Port of Leith," &c., was a descendant of an old and prominent Haddington family. His grandfather, a tanner, was provost of the burgh in 1781; while his father, a currier, was three times elected to fill that office, viz., in 1807, 1813, and 1817. The subject of this memoir was born in the second decade of the present century.

Although it is a widely-accepted canon that "there is nothing like leather," our author seems to have had a misgiving as to its correctness; for he declined to step into his father's shoes, preferring rather to study the art of brewing. He was accordingly apprenticed to a west-country brewer, to get initiated into the mystery of "wringing the shy retiring virtue" out of the innocent barley. In due time he returned to his native town and erected pre-

mises for pursuing his adopted calling. For a long series of years he carried on an extensive and what should have been a lucrative business; but in all probability he was playing a losing game in competing with the malt princes of the Metropolis and other large brewing centres. On relinquishing this concern he removed about three miles south from town to the small residential estate of Morhambank, to which he had succeeded, and there carried on the operations of the surrounding farm. Here he resided for a number of years, "pulling hard against the stream" of those bad times which drove so many farmers out of their holdings, and threw these into the hands of the landlords or a class of tenants in many ways distinct from the old East Lothian farmer. Forced to give up the unequal strife, our author, on leaving Morhambank, settled down in Edinburgh. His intimate knowledge of agricultural matters enabled him still to carry on a grain commission agency; and in the City he found ample means of indulging a certain literary faculty he had previously given evidence of possessing.

It is more this literary phase of Mr Martine's character that demands our attention here. He first broke on the stratum which was practically his own by contributing to the local newspapers a few old-time cracks, stories, and saws of a generation of Haddingtonians now entirely passed away. These having been

evidently relished by a wide circle of readers, he was tempted to continue working the rich vein until eventually his labours evolved the "Reminiscences" already mentioned. This book was very soon bought up, and second-hand copies which occasionally appear in the market are usually sold beyond the published price. A work such as this is bound to maintain its popularity with the natives; while Haddingtonians abroad place it on the shelf beside the Bible, and *swither* which of the two to take down first. Mr Martine's style is entirely his own—Martinesque, in short; and any other would not have suited the quaint character of many of the stories. One sniffs in several of them a suspicion of the aroma of "Samuel Pepys's Diary," only, to county folks, the relish and piquancy enhanced by a fine East Lothian blend. It were well if such a chronicler were a statutory *attaché* of every municipal corporation, as it forces itself on our mind that Mr Martine has left us a series of permanent photographs of unique phases of burgh life which, but for his labour of love, would have been lost for ever.

Stimulated by the success of the Burgh "Reminiscences," our author brought out in 1890 another volume of a kindred nature—"Reminiscences and Notices of Fourteen Parishes of the County of Haddington." This was issued under a *proviso* that, if sufficient interest were shown by the public in re-

couping him for this new venture, he would complete the parochial annals by issuing a companion volume containing notices of those parishes not included in the first. The immediate evidence of success which followed the publication of the first series impelled the author to collect and arrange his material for Volume II. When his labours were within sight of completion, he was unfortunately seized with an illness which speedily proved fatal. This took place in his own house in Edinburgh on 29th of December 1891. At this time he was a widower, his wife having died a few years previously, leaving no family.

His familiar figure at the Haddington corn markets was one of the few remaining links between the present and the past types of East Lothian farmers. It goes without saying it that his sympathies were all with the old ; and his exhaustless fund of anecdotes of many well-known departed worthies made his company ever enjoyable.

Without questioning Mr Martine's natural gift and aptitude for the production of such literary work as he has achieved, it cannot be doubted that his early environment must have been virtually potential in casting his thoughts in their particular mould. While yet a child, and continuously till he had attained the full efflorescence of youth, the whole British atmosphere was thick with stories of battles on land,

and yarns of sea-fights, with all their minutest details, real and imaginary, after that incredible scourge, Napoleon Bonaparte, had been finally baulked in his ambitious aims, and sent to wipe his streaming eyes with his coat sleeve on the lone island of St Helena.

Like other places similarly crowded with volunteers, militia, and regulars, Haddington had its humdrum easy-osie life whipped into tenfold activity, and heroes grew on every midden. When the air cleared a bit, after the Waterloo blizzard had spent its fury, our author's vocation brought him into close contact with certain coteries whose whole leisure was improved in retailing again and again the droll old-world tales he has bequeathed to posterity. Nor has he by any means exhausted the rich mine of Haddington folk-lore from which he drew. One good story he has omitted, and which lets in a flood of light on the manner in which our forebears conducted their businesses. A certain grocer, seated on the head of a cask which stood invitingly on his shop floor, was eagerly discussing politics in the centre of three or four daily loungers on the premises, when a customer dropt in, announcing herself by a tap on the counter. This stopped the eloquence of the shopkeeper, who cast a savage glance at the intruder as he roared, "Weel! what d'ye want?" "Half a pund o' sugar at echtpence," was the modest request. "Come back the morn; I'm thrang the noo!" growled the merchant, and at

once resumed the broken thread of his argument. What a picture, contrasted with that beheld now! Every grocer, who wishes to retain any business at all, must have his horse and van to hawk his wares from door to door through the country, galloping wildly along to the tune of "De'il tak' the hin'most!" Thanks to steam, electricity, railroads, and increased postal facilities, the days of slumber are for ever past and gone.

While it must be considered a matter for deep regret that the present volume has not had the benefit of the author's personal revisal, yet it is confidently believed that his intentions have their full complement in the book now offered to the public, and that the small unfinished proportion has been so happily overtaken by a qualified pen as to leave nothing to be desired.

T. C.

Haddington, June 1894.

PARISH OF PENCAITLAND.

THE name Pen-Caith-lan is supposed to be of Cambro-British origin and to signify in that language, "the head or end of a narrow enclosure." It may have received the name from the circumstance of the parish being situated near the end of the narrow valley through which the Tyne flows in its descent from the hills to the sea. In railway descriptions of the county of Haddington it is called the "Tyne Valley," reaching all the way from Ormiston down to Haddington, and from Haddington down to Tynninghame Sands.

The Parish of Pencaitland is situated near the western extremity of the County of Haddington, a narrow neck of land in Ormiston parish separating it from Mid-Lothian. It is bounded on the south and west by Ormiston, on the east by Saltoun, and on the north and east by Gladsmuir. It is about five miles in breadth from west to east, and four from north to south. No very marked features exist in the

parish. It is throughout well enclosed, diversified with well cultivated fields, meadows, and woods, which combine to give it a pleasing appearance. The climate of the parish, from its sheltered situation, is salubrious and healthy. The land rises considerably towards the west. The watery western clouds are noticed to stop and divide when they come to the Roman Camp in Cranston parish, one portion being attracted by the Lammermoor Hills, while the other goes down the Firth of Forth, so that the valley of the Tyne frequently escapes altogether.

Coal, lime, and sandstone are the prevailing minerals in the parish. The seams of the Lothian coal deposit seem to terminate at Pencaitland, as none of any importance are to be found eastward. The coal workings are of very old date, and are now nearly wrought out, almost all the pits at Newtown, New Winton, Boggs, &c., being given up. The old fashioned way of working the shallow pits, by wooden stairs, and carrying up the coals in creels by women, prevailed long ago for many years.

Mr Andrew G. Cuthbertson wrought the Pencaitland coal-field for many years. Mr John Deans of Penston, and Deans & Moore, were the last lessees. Carboniferous limestone was burned at Spilmersford, Jerusalem, &c., to a large extent many years ago, but the trade is now given up. The deep excavations of Spilmersford, filled with water, and tumbling down kilns yet remain to testify to the great extent of the lime trade in Pencaitland Parish seventy or

eighty years ago. Fossil sea shells were found in the limestone rock in large quantities, which led a local geologist to remark that the Pencaitland and Saltoun limestone was "sea-pickled." Freestone quarries were wrought at Jerusalem and Wester Pencaitland to a good extent.

The parish is a very ancient one. During the reign of William the Lion, in 1165, the manor of Pencaitland was possessed by Everard de Pencaithland, who assumed a title from his lands. He granted to the Monks of Kelso the church and manor, with the tithes and other rights belonging to it, in pure alms for the salvation of his Lord, King William. Before the accession of Robert the Bruce, in 1306, the Church of Pencaitland had ceased to belong to the Monks of Kelso. During his reign Thomas de Pentkateland was forfeited in Pencaithland for adherence to the English and making war on that Prince. His lands and those of Nesbet were conferred on Robert de Lawedir for his services. After the Succession Wars, Pencaitland came into the possession of John de Maxwell, brother of Sir Euston Maxwell of Carlaverock, who granted an annuity of his lands to the Monks of Dryburgh, with the advowson of Pencaitland, with the Chapel at Payston, and the Church lands, tithes, and profits. The Church of Pencaitland and the Chapel at Payston remained with the Monks of Dryburgh till the Reformation.

The old Scotch family of Seton long ago possessed most of the lands of Winton, in

Pencaitland parish, from which they took their title of the Earls of Winton. The old baronial castle of Winton was built by George, Lord Seton, in 1404. The present Winton house was erected in 1619 as the jointure house of Lady Winton, from designs by William Wallace, the then King's Master-Mason. George Seton was the fifth and last Earl of Winton. He was eminent for his high rank in society, for the antiquity of his family, and for his chivalrous but disastrous attachment to the house of Stuart. He joined the Rebellion of 1715, was taken prisoner at Preston, tried for high treason, sentenced to be executed, and his estates and houses forfeited to the Crown. He found means to escape out of the Tower of London, and fled to Rome, where he died about the age of 70. Thus terminated one of the principal houses of Scotland, after subsisting for over 600 years in East Lothian, and laying the foundation of several houses of distinction throughout Scotland.

James Hamilton, son of Lord Pressmennan, was one of the judges of the Court of Session from 1712 to 1729, and also a Lord of Justiciary, by the title of Lord Pencaitland. It appears that this gentleman acquired the estate of Pencaitland. Colonel Hamilton purchased the Winton lands, with Winton House, about the end of last century.

Pencaitland House was the old residence of the Hamiltons of Pencaitland. It was burned down about sixteen years ago. It was an old-

fashioned pile of buildings, of little architectural beauty, but no doubt in olden times well suited for the convenience and comfort of families who lived in the old style. The south walls of the House form the boundary of the road.

The present proprietors in Pencaitland are Mrs Hamilton Nisbet Dundas Ogilvy of Dirleton and Biel, to whom the estate was bequeathed by the late Dowager Lady Ruthven, Mr John Fletcher of Saltoun, Sir Thomas North Dick Lauder, Bart., of Fountainhall, the Earl of Hopetoun, Mr Reid of Wester Pencaitland, Woodhall, and Wolfstar, &c.

The death of the Dowager Lady Ruthven—the last of the old Hamiltons of Pencaitland and Winton—at Winton Castle, on 5th April 1885, aged 95, was a serious loss to the community of East Lothian, and more especially to the farmers, indwellers, and poor of the parish. Her beneficences, kindness of heart, and hospitality, were widely diffused through the whole course of her long life.

Hundreds outside the immediate sphere of her personal influence learned of her demise with sincere feelings of regret. When Lady Ruthven heard of family distress among the miners at Newtown or New Winton, she went personally, with an attendant, to enquire into the circumstances of the case. An anecdote is preserved about a family at Newtown, which showed her goodness and kindness of heart. A miner was ill and unable to work. He was sitting at his door one day when his wife espied

Lady Ruthven ("Lady Riven" they call her Ladyship) coming down the road. The wife cried out to her man, "Jock, there's the Leddie comin'; away to yer bed and cover yersel' up." When her Ladyship arrived at the house, she said, "Well, how's John, your husband, to-day." "Oh, my Leddie, he is in a very middling way —neither muckle better nor muckle waur, and no' able to do a hand's turn o' work." Lady Ruthven went in to see John, and condoled with him in his distress, and desired his wife to send up to the Castle for soup and meat for him, and she would see him in a day or two again. She sent medical advice to him. Such instances of kindness were not rare with Lady Ruthven. The miners knew her kind ways, and peculiar people as they are, often took advantage of her benevolent deeds and actions.

Lady Ruthven built, at a large outlay of money some years ago, a large square of houses for the miners' occupation, replete with all conveniences, which is called New Winton. She frequently visited the buildings when they were in course of erection, and suggested many improvements and alterations for the comfort of the occupants. Mr Hay Walker Wright, Haddington, planned the erections, and it was pleasant to see the old lady leaning on his arm, consulting about the arrangement of the interior of the houses. At the east end of the village of Easter Pencaitland, Lady Ruthven built an elegant school and schoolhouse, and handed them over to the School Board, who, by

enlarging the school, have made it the central school for the parish since the closing of the schools at New Winton and Newtown at Lady Ruthven's death. Almost her last gift was a beautiful and large bowling green and cricket ground. She was the patroness of every beneficent scheme; the donor of every useful gift.

A person of distinction connected with Pencaitland Parish was Sir John Lauder, Lord Fountainhall, a distinguished lawyer and statesman in his day. His two volumes, "Fountainhall's Decisions," remain to this day a standard work in Scotch Law Courts. He left behind him three quarto and ten folio volumes of manuscript, which are to be found in the Advocate's Library, Edinburgh.

In the 17th century, from 1640 to 1680, the ancient crimes of witchcraft and superstitions seem to have engaged the attention of princes, priests, county gentlemen, and the judges of the land. Lord Fountainhall seems to have taken an active part in them.

In Law's "Memorials," quoting from Lord Fountainhall's manuscript, it is stated "that this sage jude concludes with this ludicrous observation"—"The most part of the creatures that are thus deluded by the great imposture and enemy of mankind are of the meanest rank, and are either seduced by malice, poverty, ignorance, or covetness, and it's the unspeakable mercy and providence of our good God, that the poor devil has not the command of money (though we say

he is master of all the mines and hid treasures in the earth) else he would debauch the greatest part of the world."

The Parish Church of Pencaitland is a very venerable and picturesque structure. One part of it, called the Winton Aisle, in which some of the old Hamiltons are buried, from its form and styles of architecture, must have been built in the days of Popery. The other and larger portion was erected shortly after 1560. The Tower was erected in 1631, and having several times received considerable repairs and renovations, is in excellent preservation. The churchyard contains many old and elaborately carved memorial tombstones of old families of the parish. The manse is an excellent, commodious, and pleasant residence, with a good extent of shubbery ground and walks.

The late Dr Angus MacKellar, minister before the Disruption of 1843, took an especial pride in keeping all about the manse and church in "tip-top" order, which no doubt his successors keep up. Many eminent men in their day have been connected with the Church and Parish of Pencaitland. Mr David Calderwood, an eminent divine and historian, was, in the latter part of his life, minister of this parish. His attachment to Presbytery was enlightened and conscientious. He therefore incurred the displeasure of King James IV., who caused him to be imprisoned and afterwards banished to Holland, where he resided six years. He there published his celebrated treatise "Altare Damascenum," which

exposed the insidious means by which the Episcopalian Church of England had been intruded upon Scotland. His volumes of Church of Scotland history are still standard works on the subject. They were published about 1683.

Mr Robert Douglas, another minister of the parish, was a very distinguished man. He was at one time chaplain to a brigade of Scotchmen sent over to Germany by the Scotch Parliament to aid the Protestant cause under Gustavus Adolphus. He continued some time with the army of that celebrated commander, who said of him that Mr Douglas might have been counsellor to any prince in Europe. For prudence and knowledge he might have been Moderator to a General Assembly, and for military skill he said "He would freely trust his army to his conduct." He was appointed one of the ministers of Edinburgh in 1641, and frequently preached before the Scotch Parliament during the civil war, and "shunned not to declare the whole counsel of God." He was afterwards settled minister of Pencaitland under the Indulgence Act, and died in 1673, full of years and honours, but where is not known.

The Rev. David Pyper was minister of Pencaitland from 1790 to 1817, when he was succeeded by the Rev. Angus MacKellar, D.D., who was elected Moderator of the General Assembly in 1840, and of the Free Church of Scotland in 1852. Dr MacKellar was succeeded by the Rev. Maxwell Nicolson,

who was translated to St Stephen's Church, Edinburgh, in 1855. He was followed by the Rev. W. L. Reich, A.M., translated to Edinburgh. The Rev. James Coullie, B.D., presented by Lady Ruthven in 1872, is the present incumbent. It has been remarked that Pencaitland has always been privileged to have Evangelical ministers to fill the cure. For a long series of years only three or four of the whole Presbytery of Haddington, consisting of sixteen members, were of the Evangelical party, the remainder being Moderates. Mr Pyper of Pencaitland was one of the Evangelicals.

The River Tyne divides the parish from north and south into almost equal portions. The two villages of Easter and Wester Pencaitland are nice and clean places, containing many good and pleasant houses. A pile of old buildings long remained near the church, called the College, in which there was a bake-house and a public-house. A tradition can be traced how it was called the "College," because it had been connected with a Monkish establishment in Pencaitland adjacent to the church. Sir J. Lauder says :

"At the mouth of the Dean there was a straggling hamlet of hovels of the most wretched description. The clachan was occupied by a horde of gipsies, who ostensibly made their living by turning wooden bowls or cups, or making horn spoons. This was all cleared away by the proprietor, Colonel Hamilton, of Pencaitland, and replaced by a handsome

terrace. The little village here has an interesting antiquity about it. It goes by the strange name of the College. This probably arises from the circumstances of it having been in Catholic times a College or place of instruction for the Roman Catholic Clergy. We have no doubt that in these modern days it may have a fully greater resort of students than in former days, who, though they may not come to refresh themselves with draughts of the puritan spring, partake of a more potent beverage that may to them be fully as inspiring.

Patrick Dudgeon, Esq., of Eastcraig, purchased Wester Pencaitland from Fletcher's trustees about 1833 and built Tyneholm House, a pleasant residence on the Banks of the Tyne. He afterwards, in 1838, purchased Woodhall and Wolfstar (formerly called Foulstruther) from the trustees of the late Adam Bogue, Esq., Linplum. Wester Pencaitland, Woodhall, Wolfstar and Broomrig, long ago were part of the old Winton Estate of the Earls of Winton and Seton ; Wester Pencaitland, Woodhall, and Wolfstar, are now the property of Mr Reid. At Woodhall an old castle, which was a good specimen of the old fortified mansion-houses or Peeltowers of former days, is now incorporated with a modern mansion lately built there. In the village of Wester Pencaitland there is an old cross the history of which is not known. It may have marked the place where a market or fair was held. A notice was published in the

Edinburgh Gazette from Monday 21st till Thursday 24th August, 1699, as follows:- "This is to give notice that two new fairs are to be holden at Wester Pencaitland in the Sheriffdom of Haddington, for horse, nolt, sheep, and all sorts of linen and woollen cloth, the first upon the 4th of October, and the other on the 8th day of June, yearly, free of custom for three years."

Sixty to seventy years ago there was rather an extensive brewery carried on in Wester Pencaitland by a Mr Hunter, who combined with it a large bakery. Baxters and brewers, "Baps and Yill" were a frequent junction of trades long ago.

The late Mr John Hamilton succeeded Mr Hunter in the baking business for whom the present bakery and house were built. The dwellers in Wester Pencaitland are mostly engaged in agricultural work.

Mr Robert Foggo was long parochial schoolmaster of Pencaitland. He was a well-known man, and made good scholars. He was a native of the Abbey of Haddington, and died about 1859.

At the Boggs farm there was a distillery seventy to eighty years ago, and before that time. It was carried on by a Mr Brown. It stood on the north side of the public road. Old Haddington bakers used to tell that they sent their apprentices to it for yeast to raise their batches. The late Mr Charles Howden and his family farmed the Boggs and Jerusalem

for many years. He burned lime at the Jerusalem Kilns, which yet remain relics of former times. He was a well-known man in his day in East Lothian. His family have been tenants in Boggs for a very long period, probably over 150 years. His neighbour, Mr James Dewar, of Nisbet, was also a long time tenant there. Mr James Howden, tenant of Wintonhill for two leases, was well-known. He was a member of the old Ugston family of Howdens. He farmed Spittalrig before he entered to Wintonhill. He was a first-class farmer, and raised grand crops of cereals, roots, and grass. He was much employed in agricultural arbitration cases. He died in 1861, aged 76. He was succeeded in Wintonhill by Mr William Stodart, the present tenant.

Mr Robert Richardson was factor on Pencaitland Estate for a long period of years. He died at Pencaitland Cottage in 1838, aged 73, and was buried in Pencaitland Churchyard. He was a well-known man in his day, and was much respected by the Pencaitland family and his acquaintances. He was a native of Swinton in Berwickshire, and connected with the old Turnbulls of Millknowe and Priestlaw, and the Brodies and Bogues of East Lothian. His son John succeeded him in the factorship for some time, and was tenant of Redmains.

Mr George Rate was tenant of Lempock Wells and Huntlaw for one or two leases, and his brother John, of Milton, both well-known gentlemen in the county, and much

respected. They built Kinchie Distillery some time about 1824. Their grandfather and father came from Northumberland, and settled in Saltoun and Pencaitland parishes as limeburners at Saltoun and Spilmersford. Mr Robert Renton was tenant of Spilmersford Mains in 1846. He was succeeded by Mr Peter Hay, late of Waldean, who died in 1850. Spilmersford Lime Kilns were long wrought by Messrs Symington, who did a very extensive business. An old public-house was long in existence at Spilmersford kept by a family of the name of Amos. During the lime-burning, there was a considerable business done in it. Being on the public road from the Berwickshire and East Lothian Coasts, it got the name of being a rendezvous for hiding and storing contraband ankers of gin and brandy in the old days of smuggling. There used to be a corn-mill at Spilmersford, also a waukmill, and rather an extensive sawmill exists on the Tyne, which is joined by the Humbie water, and forms a considerable stream there. An old farm steading with land called Meagrie, was once in existence, but was long ago merged into other places. The old name is marked on Forrest's map of Haddingtonshire in 1799.

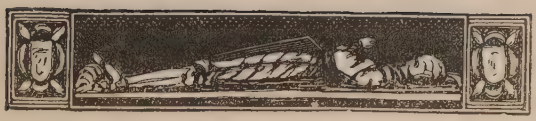
A family or two of "Horners," makers of horn spoons, baskets, &c., were settled at one time in a hamlet at Winton village, which was taken down by Colonel Hamilton. It stood north of Winton Castle. They got the name of "The Horners of Winton," and are supposed

to have come from Yetholm or the Borders. The late Bailie George Amos, of Haddington, tobacconist, was supposed to have sprung from the race. He used to be called the "Horner," which he took to kindly. He was a character in his day. A story is told of two "Horners of Winton" who were selling horn spoons, baskets, &c., in Penston Fair long ago. One was selling his baskets very cheap, below cost. His neighbour said to him, "How can ye sell your baskets so cheap, for I steal all my wands and can sell them cheaper than you ony day." "Man," said the other, "I can yet sell cheaper than you, for I steal the baskets ready made."

The old trade of thatchers, or thackers, long existed in Pencaitland parish, carried on by the old respectable family of Burtons. The trade has now become obsolete owing to the general use of slates and tiles in covering houses, and the greater value of straw for littering and feeding, and conversion into manure. Thatching was, however, centuries ago, the universal custom in the county for covering farm cot-houses, barns, &c., with well-drawn flail-thrashed wheat straw, before the days of thrashing mills. Now-a-days, when one meets with a row of thatched houses in a town or village, he may be certain that the place is a very ancient one, and bears the air of antiquity about it. The old thatchers were expert in their trade, and their work lasted for a long period of years. The work tight and strong without, and bound down with hazel rods, made the insides warm

and comfortable. Almost every considerable village in the county had its thatchers. There were Burtons, Simpsons, Amos, Balgairnie, Smiths, &c., well-known workmen. At Deanhead and Newtown there are long rows of colliers' houses. Pencaitland Colliery Store, a large concern, was carried on, where almost every article of merchandise from a mouse trap to a hand saw, flour, meal, and barley, porter, ale, and British and foreign spirits, &c., were to be had. William Smeaton was tenant of it for a number of years. He was a well-known character in his day.

There was a bleachfield at Kinchie on the banks of the burn long ago. An old hamlet of houses, called Harestanes, still exists on the west side of West Saltoun, on the roadside to Kinchie.



PARISH OF SALTOUN.

THE origin of the name of the parish of Saltoun is doubtful. It is historically handed down that the ancient domain was, in the 13th century, possessed by Nicolas de Soulis or Soules, one of the competitors for the Scottish Crown in 1291 (and grandfather of the celebrated Lord Soulis of Border history), from whom it is supposed to have been originally called Soulistoun, and subsequently, by corruption, Saltoun or Salton.*

The length of the parish is about three and one half miles, its breadth about two or three. On the north it is bounded by Haddington and Gladsmuir, on the east by Bolton, on the south and west by Humbie, Ormiston, and Pencaitland, from both of which it is divided by the Humbie and Tyne waters. It is much like an oval in figure and shape. From the west boundary a gradual ascent of the land rises

* It is extremely doubtful if Soulis ever possessed any land in Saltoun, although the statement is made in "Dalrymple's Collection concerning the Scottish History," page 395.

towards the south and east to the highest part of elevation, the Skimmerhill, which is about 600 feet above the level of the sea, and on the southern slope of which Saltoun big wood extends for upwards of one and one half miles, skirting the Humbie water. On the west side Humbie large wood joins, which two form a beautiful sylvan feature in the landscape, immortalised by Sir Walter Scott in "Marmion" (Canto Fourth, Stanza iv.)—

> The green sward way was smooth and good,
> Through Humbie's and through Saltoun's wood—
> A forest glade, which, varying still,
> Here gave a view of dale and hill,
> There narrower closed, till over head
> A vaulted screen the branches made.

The general aspect of the parish is beautifully diversified with hill and dale, and many spots of natural beauty are to be found. The salubrity of the climate of Saltoun has been long acknowledged. A tradition is preserved, says the author of the old statistical account published in 1792, "that, some centuries ago, when the plague visited the country, Saltoun was the only parish in the east of Scotland which escaped, an exception imputed to the purity of the air, and the smoke of the limekilns, which even then abounded in the parish."

Limestone rock pervades the whole parish in a north-west direction, and has been burnt for building and agricultural purposes to a large extent. The soil consists of deep loam, light sand, and strong, deep clay, is well cultivated,

and yields large crops of cereals and roots of fine quality. The rich feeding grass parks of Saltounhall are well known.

The number of acres in the parish, including woods and permanent pasture, is 3166. There are twelve farms, varying from 100 to 500 acres. The population in 1881 was 574. Valued rent, £5799.

John Fletcher, Esquire, of Saltoun, possesses four-fifths of the parish. Lord Sinclair of Hermandston, the Earl of Haddington, and Lady Susan Ramsay of Coalstoun, are the other proprietors.

The estate of Gilchriston was long possessed by James Wilkie, Esq., for Ratho Byres. He held a county freehold qualification of it as far back as 1804. He improved it very much by large suitable plantations for shelter, which are known to this day as "Wilkie's Plantations." He sold the estate to Fletcher's trustees during the war prices of land at a profit, it has been said, of £10,000.

The first authentic notice of the name of Saltoun occurs during the 12th century, when it was held by the affluent and powerful family of De Morvilles, who were at this period the constables of Scotland. The lands of Hermandston lay within the manor of Saltoun, and were granted about the year 1190, by Richard de Morville, to Henry de St Clair, who then served the Morville family as their sheriff. From him the present proprietor of the estate of Hermandston is descended, in the possession

of whose family the property has been for upwards of nearly 700 years. During the reign of Alexander III., about 1280, the greater part of the manor of Saltoun appears to have been possessed by William de Abernethy, son of Sir Patrick de Abernethy of that ilk. His descendants acquired in 1445 the title of Lords of Saltoun of Abernethy. In this family the manor of Saltoun continued until 1643, when Sir Andrew Fletcher, better known as Lord Innerpeffer, purchased from Alexander, 9th Lord Saltoun of Abernethy, the present estate, of which his lineal descendant, John Fletcher, Esq., is now proprietor. On the death of Alexander, 9th Lord Saltoun, in 1669, without issue, the peerage devolved upon his heir of line—his cousin, Sir Alexander Fraser of Philorth, by whose descendants it is still held.

The parish of Saltoun has been the birthplace and residence of several individuals of distinguished eminence. Foremost among them was the celebrated Andrew Fletcher, the intrepid assertor of the civil and religious independence of his country. He was born at Saltounhall in 1653. His father, on his death bed, committed him, then a boy, to the guardianship of Gilbert Burnet, minister of the parish, afterwards Bishop of Salisbury, from whom it is supposed the young patriot first learnt those liberal sentiments on government, which he afterwards avowed. From a preface to his political work, written by Thomas Rawlinson, and published in London

in 1732, we extract the following, which gives a lucid insight into his public character as a Scottish patriot :—

"Andrew Fletcher of Saltoun is a gentleman of a good estate in Scotland, attended with the improvement of a good education. He was Knight of the Shire for Lothian to that Parliament where the Duke of York was commissioned in the reign of Charles II., and openly opposed the arbitrary designs of that Prince, and the fatal bill of accession, which obliged him wisely to retire first to England and then to Holland. The Duke of York could not forgive his behaviour in that Parliament. They summoned him to appear at Edinburgh, which he, not daring to do, was declared traitor, and his estate confiscated.* He retired to Hungary, and served several campaigns under the Duke of Lorraine. He returned to Holland after the death of King Charles the Second, and came over to England with the Duke of Monmouth ; had the misfortune to shoot the Mayor of Lime after his landing, and on it again returned to Holland, and came over at the Revolution with the Prince of Orange. He is so zealous an assertor of the liberties of the people that he is too jealous of the growing power of all princes, in whom he thinks ambition is so natural that he is not for trusting the best of princes with the power which ill ones may make use of

* The confiscation did not take place till 1686, after he had taken part in Monmouth's Rebellion.

against the people; believes all princes were made by, and for the good of, the people, and thinks princes should have no power but that of doing good. This made him oppose King Charles, invade King James, and oppose the giving of so much power to King William, whom he never would serve; nor does he ever come into the administration of this Queen, but stands up a stout pillar for the constitution of the parliament of Scotland. He is a gentleman steady in his principles, of nice honour, with abundance of learning, brave as the sword he wears, and bold as a lion, a sure friend, and an irreconcileable enemy; would lose his life readily to serve his country, and would not do a base thing to save it. His thoughts are large as to religion, and could never be brought within the bounds of any particular sect. Nor will he be under the distinction of a Whig or a Tory, saying those names are used to cloak the knaves of both. He hath wrote some very good things, but they are not published in his name. He hath a very good genius. A low, thin man, of a brown complexion, full of fire, with a stern, sour look, and fifty years old."

In Lockhart's Memoirs of him the following passages occur:—"Being elected a Parliament man in the Scotch Parliament in the year 1703, he showed a sincere and an honest inclination towards the honour and interest of his country. The thought of England's domineering over Scotland was what his generous soul could not away with. The indignities and oppression

Scotland lay under galled him to the heart; so that in his learned and elaborate discourses he exposed them with undaunted courage and pathetical eloquence. He was blessed with a soul that hated and despised whatever was mean and unbecoming a gentleman; and was so stedfast to what he thought right that no hazard nor advantage, no, not the universal empire, nor the gold of America, could tempt him to yield or desert it. And I may affirm that in his life he never once pursued a measure with the prospect of any by-end to himself, no farther than he judged it for the common benefit and advantage of his country."

His published works were—1, a Discourse of Government with relation to militias, 1698; 2, the first Discourse concerning the affairs of Scotland; 3, the second Discourse concerning the affairs of Scotland, 1698; 4, Discorso delle cosedi Spagna scritto nel mete di Luglio, 1698, Napoli (in Italian); 5, a Speech upon the state of the Nation, in April 1701; 6, Speeches by a Member of Parliament which began at Edinburgh, the 6th of May, 1703; 7, an account of a conversation concerning a right regulation of Government for the common good of mankind, in a letter to the Marquis of Montrose, the Earls of Rothes, Roxburgh, and Haddington, from London, the 1st of December, 1703; 8, an Historical Account of the ancient rights and power of the Parliament of Scotland, 1823.

He died in London in 1716, aged 63, on his journey from France to Scotland. His remains

were brought to Scotland by his nephew, Lord Milton. He was buried in the family vault below the aisle of Saltoun Church.

Andrew Fletcher, nephew of the patriot, was a Lord of Session by the title of Lord Milton, a farm on the estate. He was born at Saltoun Hall in 1692, and died in 1766, and was buried in the family vault. He held office during the troublous times of 1745 as Lord Justice-Clerk, and it is admitted that he discharged his delicate and trying duties with singular lenity and forbearance. His son, General John Fletcher Campbell of Saltoun and Boquhan in Stirlingshire, went through a deal of military service in his day. He erected the school and schoolmaster's house at Saltoun. A memorial pillar was erected to his memory in one of the grass parks of Saltoun Hall. He died about 1814. The late Andrew Fletcher, Esquire, his oldest son, succeeded to the Saltoun estate. About 1819 he rebuilt the old mansion-house of Saltoun Hall, from plans by the late Mr Burn, architect, in a grand and imposing style; Mr James Dorward, Haddington, was the builder. There is a splendid library of over 5000 volumes of valuable books, in the house. He died in 1879 at the mature age of 83.

Patrick Scougall, afterwards well-known as Bishop of Aberdeen, was the incumbent of Saltoun for over five years, having been inducted to that charge from Leuchars in January 1659. He was elevated to the Bishopric in 1664. His son, Henry, born at

Saltoun in 1660, was a distinguished divine in his day. At the age of ninteen he filled the Chair of Philosophy at Aberdeen, at twenty-five he was elected Professor of Divinity in King's College, Aberdeen. He died in 1678, aged 28 years. He was author of "The Life of God in the Soul of Man." Gilbert Burnet was admitted minister of Saltoun in 1665. He left Saltoun in 1669, having been called to fill the Chair of Theology in the University of Glasgow. He was afterwards elevated to the more important station and became Bishop of Salisbury, which offices he filled for twenty-six years. He died in 1715. He bequeathed, in trust, to the Lairds of Saltoun and Hermandston, and to the minister of Saltoun the sum of 20,000 merks (present value, about £2000, and yearly revenue, £80) to be applied in different sums for the education and clothing of thirty children "of the poorer sort," for the erection of a new schoolhouse, and affording a perpetual augmentation of the schoolmaster's salary, for the increase of a library founded by Norman Leslie, minister, of Gordon, who had been tutor to Sir Andrew Fletcher's sons, "for the minister's house and use," and the remainder for relieving the wants of the necessitous poor. By this generous bequest the memory of the good Bishop is still perpetuated in the parish. The children on the fund are familiarly termed "bishops," and the gallery in the church appropriated to their use has received, and is

ever likely to retain, the appellation of the "Bishops' Laft."*

Hermandston is a very ancient place and contains many objects and memorials of the old and potent family of the St Clairs of antiquity. The first Baron Sinclair was created as such in 1489. In the park close to the mansion-house are the remains of part of a chapel, erected in the thirteenth century by John de St Clair, by permission of the Canons of Dryburgh to whom he granted two acres of land, with an indemnity "that his chapel should not injure the mother church of Saltoun." All that now exists of this ancient building is a portion of its western extremity, measuring 30 feet in length by 14 in breadth. It is now used as the burying vault of the Sinclair family. Within it are two flat tombstones covering the remains of William de St Clair and Sibilla, his wife, bearing date 1598. A few yards to the north of this burying vault is an old arch, a fragment merely of the ancient Castle of Hermandston, having the date on the keystone. Hermandston House is pleasantly situated in a haugh on the banks of the Tyne, and is finely wooded with large old trees. Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Sinclair, of Hermandston was long commander of the East Lothian Local Militia in old times, and for many years one of the sixteen representative peers of Scotland. Born, 1768; died, 1863;

* Removed in 1885.

age. 95. James St Clair, 13th Lord Sinclair, born 1803, died at Constantinople 1880, age 77.

Lord Gilles, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, resided long at Hermandston House, and died there.

Not much is known about the ancient ecclesiastical history of the parish.

Hugh de Morville about 1130, the then Lord of the Manor, granted the church of Saltoun, with a carrucate of land and the tenth of a multure of the mill of Saltoun, to the Monks of Dryburgh Abbey, who enjoyed the possessions until the Reformation. At the epoch of the ancient *Taxatio*, 1176, the Church was assessed at thirty mercas.

In 1633, during the temporary establishment of Episcopacy, the Church of Saltoun with all the civil and ecclesiastical rights and privileges was transferred to the Metropolitan See.

In 1643 when Sir Andrew Fletcher acquired the property, the presentation of the living was transferred to him. The situation of the church, both as regards its position in the parish, and as a landmark, is extremely good. In 1805 it underwent extensive repairs so as to make it almost new. The late General Fletcher erected at his own expense, a handsome spire, which rises to the height of 90 feet from the level of the ground. It is seen from a considerable distance all round, and is the highest church spire in the county. On an entablature at the

base of the spire, the following is inscribed :—

DEO O. M. E. T. SACRUM
LORD INNERPEFFER
ANDREW FLETCHER ESQ., THE PATRIOT
LORD MILTON.

This spire was erected by JOHN FLETCHER CAMPBELL, as a monument to the virtues of his ancestors, and an example for their posterity to imitate.
Saltoun, 1805.

Archibald Lundie was ordained minister of Saltoun in 1696, died 1759, an incumbency of 63 years. Patrick Bannerman translated from Kinnoul in 1760, died 31st December 1790. Andrew Johnston inducted in 1791, died 1829. Robert Buchanan translated from Gargunnock in 1830, was elected to Glasgow in 1833. Robert Kerr Hamilton was appointed in 1834, afterwards became minister of the Church of Scotland at Madras. Patrick Fairbairn from a church in Glasgow was ordained in 1841, joined the Free Church at the Disruption in 1843. He was the first minister of the Free Church at Pilmore, erected to serve Saltoun and Bolton members. James M'Watt was ordained in 1843, died in 1875. T. N. Drummond ordained in 1876, died in 1885. Rev. T. E. S. Clarke, B.D., the present minister, was ordained in 1885. The parochial school of East Saltoun was long very efficiently conducted by the late Mr J. Halliday.

There are two considerable villages in the parish—West and East Saltoun. West Saltoun claims especial notice, for in it was established

in 1712, the first barley mill in Scotland for the manufacture of decorticated or pot barley, by the exertions of Henry Fletcher, brother to Andrew Fletcher, the patriot. Pot barley was first manufactured in Holland. Andrew Fletcher, always anxious to benefit his country and improve agriculture, foreseeing the good effects of manufactured barley as an article of food, entered into an agreement, through his brother Henry, with James Meikle, millwright in Wester Keith, to proceed to Holland and endeavour to learn the method of manufacturing rough barley into pearl and pot barley. It may be interesting now (1892) to print the original articles of agreement betwixt the Laird of Saltoun and James Meikle. They are as follows :—"It is agreed betwixt Henry Fletcher, brother to the Laird of Saltoun, on the one part, in the name of his said brother, and taking burden upon him for the said Laird of Saltoun and James Meikle, wright in Wester Keith, on the other part, that they shall keep and perform to one another, according to the tenor of the following articles, viz.—Impr.—The said James Meikle shall go to Holland with the first fleet that sails thither after the date of these presents, and there learn the perfect art of sheeling barley, both that which is called French barley, and that which is called pearl barley, and how to accommodate, order, and erect mills for that purpose, in so far as he can, with his uttermost industry, and the recommendations given him. 2. That as soon

as James Meikle shall find himself sufficiently instructed in said art, he shall return with the first fleet or man-of-war, he can have safe passage in for Scotland or Newcastle. That in the meantime if he shall be forced to wait, he shall endeavour to instruct himself in any other useful trade, or manufactory. 3. That when he returns to Scotland, he shall be obliged to communicate the arts he has learned to Saltoun, or to any person whom he shall appoint, and shall communicate them to no other person, but by Saltoun's permission. 4. That Saltoun shall pay all the said James Meikle's expenses, in going and coming, and learning such arts. 5. That the said James Meikle shall be master of the sheeling mill if he thinks fit, and shall have a proportional allowance for it, according to the profit it yields, or a yearly salary according as two honest men chosen for that end shall determine. But, if the said James Meikle shall not think fit to employ himself in this manner, but can do better otherwise, then he shall be obliged to teach the art of sheeling French barley and pearl barley to any whom Saltoun appoints, he being paid for the time he employs therein, and besides in this case, Saltoun shall give him a handsome reward for the pains he has been at, and the art he has taught, he then going out of Saltoun's service, and not profiting any more by the mill, and then the said Meikle shall renew his obligation not to make use of this art himself, nor teach it to any other. 6. That, if it happens that the said James Meikle

shall be taken prisoner either going or coming, Saltoun shall be obliged to relieve him and pay all his expenses. 7. That if it shall happen, that the said James Meikle shall die abroad in this voyage then Saltoun shall be obliged to give his wife and children 100 merks. 8. That the said James Meikle from the time he parts from his own house to go to the ships till he return, shall be allowed every day two shillings sterling, viz.—one shilling for his entertainment and one shilling for his work, and shall give a receipt for any money he takes with him, or any letter of credit he gets, and shall account for them accordingly when he comes back. Lastly, both parties oblige themselves to keep the foresaid articles under the penalty of 500 merks by and attour performance; in witness whereof they have subscribed their presents, written by the said Henry Fletcher at Saltoun, this 17th day of April 1710.—(Signed) H. Fletcher, Js. Meikle."

The mill was erected about 1712 on the Humbie water, a tributary of the Tyne. It still retains the name of the barley mill of Saltoun. Mr Andrew Meikle, the ingenious mechanic who invented the threshing machine, was the son of the James Meikle mentioned above. "The father, along with the materials for the barley mill, brought over a winnowing machine, or what is commonly called a pair of fanners, which identical machine, or at least a part of it," writes Robert Brown of Markle in Volume I. of the *Farmer's Magazine*, "remained at Saltoun

barley mill a few years ago, and probably is used at this date (1800)." An extensive trade is still carried on in pot barley by Mr David Staig, the present tenant. Andrew Meikle, the inventor of the threshing mill, died in 1811, aged 92. About the same time the first manufactory for the weaving of "Hollands" in Britain was established in Saltoun parish, by the exertions of the lady of Henry Fletcher, who travelled in Holland for some time with two expert mechanics, who took models of the machinery employed, and afterwards applied to practical use. A large trade in Hollands was long carried on in the Saltoun factory.

In 1750 the first bleach-field was formed in West Saltoun, belonging to the British Linen Company, under the patronage of Lord Milton. In the old statistical account of the parish, published in 1755, it is stated "that during his lordship's life it was conducted with much spirit; no expense was spared in procuring from Ireland the most expert workmen, and it became at last so flourishing as to afford employment to upwards of one hundred persons." This company was the origin of the present opulent British Linen Company's Bank, which was incorporated by Royal Charter in the year 1746.

A paper mill and a starch work were also established in West Saltoun, each of which, according to the statistical account of 1792, employed ten to twelve persons. All these manufactories, except the barley mill, have

ceased to exist. The paper mill was wrought by Messrs Laing & Horne, until the year 1822.

The late General Fletcher of Saltoun originated a society in the parish in the beginning of the present century for promoting the improvement and interests of agriculture by the bestowal of annual premiums for the best breeds of stock and the best specimens of agricultural produce, the most ingenious implements of tillage, &c. This society, after having existed for over twenty years, was, with the consent of the late Andrew Fletcher, Esq., merged into the East Lothian Society, under the title of East Lothian United Agricultural Society. There was a yearly meeting and show held at East Saltoun Green on the last week of May, when an extensive show of all kinds of fine stock and horses was brought forward and prizes awarded. This annual show has of late years been discontinued, and is now incorporated with the large July show held in Amisfield Park, Haddington.

The old Fletchers of Saltoun have done a great deal in their day, with spirit and energy, for the prosperity of the county of Haddington and the parish.

There is a large inn at East Saltoun, which was for many years occupied, with some land, by Sandie Swinton, wright, an old and familiar name in Saltoun. His bye-name was "Old Respectability."

The families of Hendersons, Richardsons, Knoxes, &c., were long known in East Saltoun.

The names of old farmers in the parish of Saltoun may be noted. Mr Andrew Dods, latterly tenant of Saltcoats, in Dirleton parish, farmed Cauldshiel and the Skimmerhill; William Havert, Esq., farmed Greenhead for a series of years (Mr John Finlayson, of Saltoun East Mains, was tenant for two leases at least.) Mr George Hay, of West Blance, and his successors, have been tenants there for over seventy years. John Gowans was long tenant in East Blance. Alexander Drysdale was in Greenlaw, Mr Robert Wilson at Hermandston Mains, and his father before him in Middlemains, were long respected in the parish. Mr John Mylne farmed Gilchriston for a lease. Mr George Bertram,* now of Townhead, succeeded him. Mr James Henderson farmed Samuelston Mains for a lease and more.

Mr Alexander Muirhead, called the "Chancellor" in his day, deserves particular notice. He was a man of great energy—an extensive lime-burner at the Saltoun Lime Kilns, a coalmaster at Huntlaw and Fountainhall, an extensive farmer, and brick and tile manufacturer at Saltoun at works originated and erected by the late Andrew Fletcher, Esq., in 1834. Up to 1841 500,000 draining tiles, 20,000 house, and 12,000 common bricks were manufactured. The tile works are not now worked. Mr Muirhead was a well-known man

* Mr Bertram died on March 15th, 1893, at the ripe age of 85 years.

in Haddington, which he visited every Friday. He was a great authority in mining and lime-burning operations. In conversing he used the expression "my canna man," which came to be quite familiar to all his friends and acquaintances. He died in 1866.

Mr John Muirhead, a brother of Mr Muirhead, a native of Saltoun, died a man of celebrity and mark in London, September 1885, in the 79th year of his age. He was a telegraphic engineer, and was the inventor of many improvements for laying down lines of wires in streets and public buildings. He brought the science of telegraphy to a state of great perfection.

The late Mr Henry Davidson, of Haddington, sheriff-clerk, and afterwards his son, Mr Henry Marshall Davidson, were long factors and managers of the Saltoun estate, and possessed the confidence of the family for over 75 years.

In the south-west part of the parish, and close to the brink of the Humbie water, are the remains of an enclosure of an oval form, supposed to be a Pictish or a Danish camp. It consists of two walls or dykes running parallel to each other, and having between them a fosse, now almost filled up, of about ten yards in width. The circumference of the inner inclosure may be about 500 yards. No tradition exists by which any light is thrown on the history of this remnant of antiquity.

In a remote corner of the parish of Saltoun,

on the farm of Gilchriston, on the banks of the Birns water, which runs into the Humbie water, was to be seen in 1838, several miles from the churchyard of Saltoun, two old worn moss-covered gravestones, on which are, scarcely legible, the following inscriptions :—

* 2 Sam., 24
DAVID'S CHCIIE (Grief).
Heir Lyes
WILLIAM SKIRVIN,
Who Desicit the
24 of Ivinne, 1645.

On a broken fragment of the other stone the following inscription, more distinct, can be traced :—

Heir Lyes
KATRIN WILSON
Who Desicit, In Anno.

In 1838, George Tait, bookseller and author, Haddington, published a small volume, entitled "Philip Stanfield, the parricide; and other tales and poems," dedicated to Lord Ramsay, M.P., (the late Marquis of Dalhousie) in which he narrates with great feeling and tenderness, a tale under the title of the "Lonely Grave," the history and death of William Skirvin, who for nearly half a century had lived an honest and industrious tenant on the farm of Gilchriston, and was known as the Gudeman of Gilchriston. It is recorded in the old statistical account of the Parish of Saltoun, that a tradition was

* David's lament over Saul and Jonathan.

preserved that some centuries ago, when the plague visited with terrible ravages this county, that Saltoun was one of the few parishes that escaped. Mr Tait's narrative, however, says that the pestilential disease reached the farm of Gilchriston, and swept into the grave every living being and creature of the house, except William Skirvin himself, and a young ploughman of the name of Andrew Harrowlee, who with his assistance deposited the bodies where they still lie on the green bank of the Birns water, which is near the modern farm house of Gilchriston. It is said that William Skirvin, feeling his end approaching, assisted in making the narrow bed into which he was shortly after laid by the faithful and honest-hearted ploughman, who, in memory of his kind master, and for the love he bore to his beautiful daughter, Ellen Skirvin, erected the tombstone which points out the spot where his remains were interred. George Tait was a well-known literary man in Haddington long ago. His volumes of tales and poems is now scarce and rarely to be met with. It is well worth a perusal, being much above the average of rubbishy tales which are printed now-a-days.

Long ago there was a Mr Skirvin, tenant in Kidlaw, and another in Westfield of Lethington. Perhaps they might have been related to William Skirvin, the gudeman of of Gilchriston.

PARISH OF WHITTINGHAME.

THE name of the Parish of Whittinghame is, according to some authorities, derived from the Saxon *Whittinghame*, the dwelling on the White Mead. There is, however, no such Saxon word, though the name Whittinghame has its origin in the speech of the Angles. More modern authorities derive it thus—"The home of the Whittings," a certain tribe of Angles, or "Whittinges." The parish extends in length from north to south eleven miles. Its mean breadth from east to west is four miles, and contains forty-four square miles. It is bounded on the south and west by the Parish of Garvald, on the west by Morham, on the north by Prestonkirk, on the east by Stenton, and on the south by the Parishes of Cranshaws and Longformacus in Berwickshire. The figure of the parish is irregular. Its surface southward is hilly, uneven and rugged, rising and falling gradually from the church to the foot of Stoneypath or Clints Hill, from the top of which there is a very extensive prospect of the German Ocean, the Island of May, the Bass, the Firth of Forth, the coast of Fife, and almost all the lower part of East Lothian, and

part of Mid-Lothian. The parish is thus, like others on the slope of the Lammermoor Hills, partly arable and partly pastoral. It contains of low flat arable land 4237 acres, of hilly grass land 11,588 acres, in ten arable farms and three hill ones.

The population in 1881 was 639; in 1891, 586—decrease, 53. Valued rent in 1888-89 was £6850, a decrease of about £3000 from that of not many years before.

In the civil history of the parish it is recorded in Chalmers' "Caledonia," that the Earls of March held their baronial court at Whittinghame. In 1363 Patrick, Earl of March, granted to Alexander de Ricklinton the half of the lands of Spott, which Sir Alexander Ramsay had resigned "in plena curia nostra apud Whytingeham." In 1372 George, Earl of March, gave in marriage with his sister Agnes to James Douglass of Dalkeith the manor of Whittinghame, with the patronage of the chapel, when Whittinghame and Penshill became a separate parish from Dunbar, which estate and patronage the Douglasses of Dalkeith possessed about 190 years. In October 1564 Queen Mary granted to James, Earl of Morton, who represented the Douglasses of Dalkeith, all their estates, with the baronry of Whittinghame, the castle, and mills, and also the advowson of the Church of Whittinghame, and the Queen's grant to that unworthy servant was ratified by Parliament the 19th day of April 1567.

A historical event in the annals of Scotland

occurred in 1566 at Whittinghame Castle, where a diabolical plot was laid to murder Darnley, husband of Queen Mary, no doubt at the instigation of the notorious Earl of Bothwell.* The other parties concerned in the dreadful plot were the Earl of Morton, Maitland of Lethington, Archibald Douglas. The result of the plot was the blowing up by powder and murder of Darnley in his lodgings in the Kirk of Field, where the University of Edinburgh now stands. It is said that the parties met to arrange and concoct their plans under the shadowy branches of a gigantic yew tree, which still stands within a short distance of the Castle. It is not recorded in history further than they talked long "in the yarde at Whittinghame." This yew tree still vigorously exists, and is probably the largest and oldest one in Scotland. It is larger than the famous one at Ormistonhall. The larger limbs and branches strike out from the massive trunk and form a circle, the extremities of the lowest branches bending down and touching the ground. The circumference of the circle of branches lying on the grass, as measured by Mr Garrett, the gardener of Whittinghame, was, in August 1891, found to be over 104 yards. The branches are still vigorous and fresh, putting forth fresh shoots every year. It must be many centuries old. It

* The plot was merely talked of at Whittinghame. It was planned before Morton and Bothwell met there.

is an interesting object to inspect and look at, on account of its antiquity and the historical event connected with it. Another younger yew tree in very vigorous health stands a little way to the south.

The Earl of Morton was tried for his share in Darnley's murder, and, having admitted that Bothwell had told him of the plot, and asked him to join, which he refused to do, he was executed as accessary before the fact. The Earl of Morton's estates were forfeited in 1581. Early in the 17th century, Viscount Seton, of Kingston, married the daughter of Sir Archibald Douglas, who succeeded her father as heiress of Whittinghame. Both Archibald, the second Viscount Kingston, and James the third, having died without issue, the honours became extinct. The Honourable Lady Elizabeth Seton became heiress of Whittinghame. She was married to the Honourable William Hay, of Drumelzier, second son of the first Earl of Tweeddale in 1695, who by this marriage came into the possession of Whittinghame and Stoneypath Tower. The Hays, of Drumelzier, were long proprieters of Whittinghame. They were accounted most excellent landlords, and were highly esteemed by their tenants. Whittinghame and Stoneypath were sold in 1817 to James Balfour, second son of John Balfour, of Balbirnie, who made a large fortune in India.

He subsequently much enlarged his property in East Lothian, having bought Papple (called

Pople in old maps of the county) and Papple Westmains and Bogend from Lord Blantyre; Garvald Mains and Garvald Grange from the old family of Douglas of Garvald; Cairndinnes, Lawend, and Hollandside from Miss Dalrymple of Hailes; the Black Castle estate from Mr John Hepburn Belches, of Invermay; Stottencleuch from Mr Thomas Dods, Butterdean; and Prenderguest in Berwickshire, Balgonie in Fife, Newtondon in Roxburgshire, Strathconan in Ross-shire. The present Mr Balfour inherited the larger share of these possessions, and a few years ago bought the remainder of the Hailes estate from Sir Charles Dalrymple, viz:—the farms of Traprain, Sunnyside, Hailes, Netherhailes, Traprain Law, &c., for a large sum. The Balgonie and Newtondon properties went to C. Balfour and family, while the daughters of the first Mr Balfour, of Whittinghame, also had large portions.

Whittinghame, with the large additions of land annexed to it for several years past, is perhaps one of the most beautiful, valuable, and extensive properties in the county of East Lothian. There are twenty-four or twenty-five farms on it. Mr Balfour, after he acquired Whittinghame, spent a great sum of money in beautifying and improving it, in building, planting, draining, and making new roads, &c., thus employing a great number of work-people and tradesmen. It has been often remarked that he spent and circulated in one year more

money on his estate than many other East Lothian proprietors would do in ten. He built a splendid mansion house on the south bank of the Whittinghame Water, in the Grecian style of architecture, delightfully situated and commanding a view of the country towards the sea. It is surrounded by beautiful plantations, tastefully laid out. The great feature of this ornate mansion is the library, running nearly the whole length of the building—a lofty apartment, elegantly fitted up, and in every way attestive to the high attainments, judgment, and taste of its owner. Towards this elegant edifice of Whittinghame House there are three magnificent approaches with lodges, one from the east, one from the south, and one from the west. The garden was much enlarged, and new brick walls built round a great part of a farm called Howden on the north side of it, which was taken into it, and the adjacent pleasure grounds. Another farm, called Blinkbonny, was also removed.

Mr James Dorward, builder, Haddington, built Whittinghame House and its offices. The stones—a white freestone—were brought from Cullels Quarry, at Burntisland, to Dunbar Harbour. Mr Dorward used frequently to remark that Whittinghame House was the only one he ever built that the cartage of stones, from Dunbar to Whittinghame, was paid by weight. Mr Alexander, of Yarrow, and Mr Alexander, of Newmains, were the contractors for the cartage.

The old mansion-house or Castle of Whittinghame, once the residence of the old proprietors, still stands, a grand specimen of an old and massive baronial building. The lofty pillars of the old gateway still remain splendid specimens of art and embellishment. The cornices are richly and elaborately carved with shields and coats of arms with heraldic mottoes of the old families of the Douglasses, Setons, Hays, &c. A noble avenue of large old trees leads up to the castle. A very old burial place, near which an older church stood, was used by the old Hays, who have been allowed to erect a monument over their dead. A large square tablet pillar marks the resting-place of a number of them, whose deaths are recorded on it. The place is surrounded by large aged trees. Lady Blanche and Professor F. M. Balfour are buried in this interesting spot, which will in time coming be the family burial ground. Two stone coffins found on the farm of Cairndinnes have been replaced in it for preservation, and are interesting memorials of olden times.

Mr William Rintoul was long head gardener at Whittinghame, and it was during his time that the garden was mostly enlarged and improved. Under the able management of Mr Garrett, the present gardener, Whittinghame Garden and pleasure grounds are a treat to visit and admire. A large extent of hot and greenhouses, filled with valuable shrubs, flowers, vines, &c., abound.

The old village of Whittinghame stood near

the north-east corner of the church. It contained a public-house, and small brewery (long occupied by Mrs Cowden), a small shop or two, schoolhouse, a smiddy, and joiner's shop, and other appendages of a small country village. Whittinghame corn and barley mill stood on the water, below the village, near where the present bridge across the water is. It is recorded, in tradition, that Cromwell's soldiers, on their march from Danskine to Dunbar, drank up all the beer they found in the brewery. Mr Balfour removed the village, and built a new one on the side of the Luggate Burn. It contains an elegant school-house and school, with requisite offices for mechanics and farm servants, of red-stone. It is placed in a well-sheltered, warm situation. Steep braes are on both sides of it. The new manse and offices, very elegant and commodious, were added to for the Rev. Mr Scott, who succeeded Mr Lumsden in 1850. Mr Lumsden would not take a new manse, and would not leave the old one, although it was old and small, having been built in 1765. He preferred to remain in the old one, connected as it was to him with old associations. The glebe, garden, &c., contained over six and a half acres of good land, a fine avenue from the public road lined with thriving trees leads up to the church and manse. The death of James Maitland Balfour, of Whittinghame, in 1857, at Madeira, was deeply regretted by a wide circle of friends. He sat for the Haddington district of burghs as M.P. from 1841 to 1847. An

elegant monumental obelisk pillar was erected to his memory, on the commanding elevation of Blaikie Heugh, by the East Lothian and Berwickshire corps of Yeomanry Cavalry, with the following inscription :—

ERECTED

To the memory of James Maitland Balfour, Esquire of Whittinghame, Major Commandant of the East Lothian Yeomanry Cavalry, by the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Privates of that Corps, in testimony of their great respect and esteem for him as a Commanding Officer, of their affectionate regard for him as an amiable and able country gentleman, and of their deep and lasting regret for his premature removal from among them.

MDCCCLVII.

The memory of Lady Blanche Balfour, his wife, will be long remembered in the Parish of Whittinghame as the promoter, encourager, and patroness of every good and useful work. Her death in 1872 caused universal regret. She was a sincere friend, adviser, and comforter to the many families employed on the estate. James Balfour was the last member for the county of East Lothian, elected under the old system of 1831. He polled 40 old freehold votes ; his opponent Sir David Baird, Bart., of Newbyth, 11—Majority, 29. In 1833 he was the first member elected under the new system by a majority of 39 over his old opponent, the numbers being 271 and 232. The election was a very keen one. Great efforts were made on

both sides to secure votes. Tranent, Prestonpans, &c., was the great stronghold of Sir David Baird, Bart.

Stoneypath Tower, a strong square built castle, an old family baronial habitation, is a building of much interest to archæologists. It stands on a high perpendicular freestone cliff, below which the Papana or Garvald water winds its course. A picture of it by the Rev. Mr Thomson of Duddingston is in existence, an engraving of which is to be found in Scott's "Border Antiquities." It gives its name to the farm of Stoneypath Tower in the immediate vicinity. In a charter granted to Sir Robert Lyle of Duchal, in Peebles-shire, who was created a peer by James II. about 1446, George Lyle, of Stoneypath, is mentioned after the uncle of Sir Robert as one of his heirs male. In Henry the Minstrels Actis and Deidis of Wallace, Squire Lyle is noticed as well acquainted with East Lothian, and who was of material importance to Wallace, when in pursuit of the Earl of Dunbar in 1297.

> "A squeir Lyle, yat weill yat countre knew,
> With twentye men to Wallace couth persew
> Besyde Lintoun."

Squire Lyle and Lauder, ancestor to the Lauder of the Bas, was thus rewarded for their services. "Stanton (Stenton) he gaiff to Lawder in hys wage Ye Knycht Wallang (Vallance) aucht it in hearitage. Yane Brygeane Cruck, he gaiff Lyll Yat was

wycht."—*Book VIII, line 419.* The family of Lyll-Lyle-De-Lisle must have been a very old name in East Lothian, &c. It is handed down in tradition that a De-Lisle came over with William the Conqueror, from Normandy. The name is still to be found in the county of East Lothian, &c. No doubt they are the descendants of the old Lylls of Staneypath.

The church is situated on the north side of the Whittinghame Water. It was built in 1722, as appears from this date still appearing on a part of an old wall. The present church was rebuilt and renovated in 1820, and reseated with pitch pine in 1876, and made very commodious, chiefly at the cost of Mr Balfour. It is an elegant structure with handsome gothic spire and pointed windows and doorways built of red sandstone. It is seen from a long distance around. It is a model of a country church. The burial vault of the Balfour family in which the late Mr James Balfour, Lady Eleanor, his wife, daughter of James, Earl of Lauderdale, are interred, is on the north side, also that of Mr Sydserff, of Ruchlaw. The churchyard is large, surrounded with many aged trees. A number of elegant tombstones, some of a very old date are to be found in it.

A religious house existed at one time at Papple, but no vestige of it now remains.

Andrew Baxter, an ingenious metaphysical writer, was for some time a resident in this parish. Educated at King's College, Aberdeen, he afterwards became travelling companion and

tutor of Lord Blantyre and Mr Hay, of Drummelzier. His acquaintance on the Continent was very extensive, as was also his knowledge of the languages. French, Dutch, and German he could speak fluently, and indeed it is recorded that during the whole of his residence at Utrecht he presided at the ordinary there, with much gaiety and politeness, giving great satisfaction. On his return to Scotland in 1747, he resided at Whittinghame till his death on April 23rd, 1750, aged 63. He wrote for the use of his pupils a Latin treatise, entitled "Matho, sive. Cosmotheoria puerillis Dialogus," which was afterwards translated in English, and published in two volumes, 8vo. He had previously, in 1730, published "An Enquiry into the Nature of the Human Soul," to which in 1750 appeared an appendix dedicated to the celebrated John Wilkes, who was a friend and correspondent. Other works appeared from his pen, and a large quantity of manuscript was left behind him.

The Rev. Adam Dickson, M.A., an able writer on agriculture, was, for a few years, minister of this parish. He was the son of the Rev. Andrew Dickson, minister of Aberlady, and was born in the manse there. He studied at the University of Edinburgh for the Church of Scotland, and in 1750 was ordained minister of the Parish of Duns, in Berwickshire. As his settlement had been delayed for a considerable time on account of a law-suit about the legality of the presentation, an opposition was stirred up in the parish; but such was the ability, good

sense, and engaging temper of Mr Dickson, and such his frankness of conduct that his most bitter opponents soon became his most attached friends. His early inclination having been towards farming, his keen observation, his knowledge of the facts, and practice of husbandry, and his clear and sound judgment on agricultural matters generally, made him quite an acquisition to his neighbours in Berwickshire, where improvements in the science were much more recent than in East Lothian. In 1770 Mr Dickson returned to East Lothian, having been translated to Whittinghame. Here he lived but a few years, having been killed by a fall from his horse on the 26th March 1776. Having observed how very ill-suited the books published in England on agriculture were to the soil and climate of Scotland, and how that many of them consisted largely of specious theories unsupported by the history of facts, he determined to compose a treatise on that subject to obviate these objections. His works are—1. "A Treatise on Agriculture" (Edinburgh, 1762), 8vo, of which a second edition, with large editions and amendments, appeared in 1765, Vol. II. in 1769, and a new edition in 1785. 2. "The Husbandry of the Ancients" (Edinburgh, 1778), 2 vols., 8vo.

A Mr John Ewing was minister of Whittinghame in 1798. He was succeeded by the Rev. Mr John Lumsden, who was ordained in 1804, and who died 15th June 1860, aged 85. The Rev. Mr Walter Scott succeeded Mr Lumsden,

who died in 1864. Dr James Robertson, A.M., the present incumbent, was presented by Lady Blanche Balfour in 1865. Mr Lumsden was about forty-five years minister of Whittinghame, was a well-known man in the county, and was much esteemed. He was a worthy specimen of a Scotch country clergyman, attentive in the performance of the duties of his parish—kind, affable, and hospitable to all. His style and manner of preaching was thought by strangers rather uncouth, but his parishioners got well acquainted with it. When the military were encamped at Westbarns, during the time of the threatened French invasion, Mr Lumsden preached one Sunday in Dunbar Church for his neighbour Dr Carfrae. A young English officer ridiculed him openly in the church. Mr Lumsden stopped in his sermon and administered a severe rebuke to the indiscreet young officer. He said he did not care for the insult he had personally applied to him, but he felt he had insulted him as the servant and ambassador of the Lord Jesus Christ to proclaim his divine doctrines to sinners such as he was. It is said that the young officer felt Mr Lumsden's rebuke very keenly, and went out of the church, for which he was severely reprimanded by his superior officer, General Don. Many anecdotes of Mr Lumsden have been handed down. He had potatoes one season growing in his glebe, and as the crows were doing mischief among them, he got an old suit of black clothes, with a hat put on a long stick, to represent a potato

bogle. Jock Rattray, a Garvald character, spied the bogle, and thought that the black suit would answer him well, in place of his duddy garments. He dressed himself with Mr Lumsden's suit, and put his own rags on the stick. He called on Mr Lumsden, and told him what he had done, saying that the crows would be better scared away with his duds than the minister's black suit. Mr Lumsden said he hoped that he had made a good exchange, and praised him for his ingenuity. Rattray thanked his honour for his unexpected kindness, expecting to have been punished at the hands of the authorities. A country lass called once at the manse, and asked to speak a word with the minister. She told him, crying, that she was all wrong. "Well, my girl, I must try and make you all right." He got her young man to marry her, and the pair lived for many years together in a happy state. It was Mr Lumsden's delight to do good and kind actions when he had opportunities. Mr Lumsden married Miss Isabella Dale, who was sister to Mr Robert Dale, once farmer at Westbarns, and aunt to the late Mr John Robert Dale of Auldhame. She died in 1859, at the old age of ninety. They lived happily for nearly half a century.

Mr Walter Robertson was for many years parochial schoolmaster of Whittinghame. He was an enthusiastic preceptor of youth, and made capital scholars. He was succeeded by Mr George Hay Winton.

The present proprietors in the parish are Mr

Arthur James Balfour, M.P., who is the principal one, the Earl of Wemyss, the Marquis of Tweeddale, the Earl of Haddington, Mr Thomas B. Sydserff, of Ruchlaw; Major Houstoun, of Clerkington and Mayshiel.

Upon the Marquis of Tweeddale's estate of Priestlaw there are the remains of a strong encampment of an oval form. On one side there are four ditches parallel to each other, at the distance of twelve yards from each other. On the north side are three ditches; the outer one is carried round the whole. The circumference of this ancient military work measures about 170 yards. An old mansion-house of the Tweeddale family, now in ruins, stood on the banks of the Whitadder. The ruins of the baronial residence of Penshiel are still visible. The Chapel of Penshiel stood below the house in a glen, still called Chapel Haugh. It was connected with a chapel at Whittinghame, and with the Collegiate Church of Dunbar. Religious services were performed in it before the time of the Reformation.

A number of old farmers names in Whittinghame parish may yet be named. A Mr John Savigney farmed Luggate sixty to seventy years ago. He was a member of an old French Huguenot family, who fled from France at the massacre of St. Bartholomew, and settled in London. They were famous cutlers and surgical instrument makers. Some of the Savigney razors are still to be found in old families. Mr Savigney farmed the lands of

Braid, near Edinburgh. The family latterly emigrated to Canada. Mr George Mill succeeded Mr Savigney in Luggate. Mr William Hepburn long farmed Whittinghame Mains. He was a member of an old East Lothian family. He was succeeded by his son, Mr Archibald, and Mr George Harvey, a well-known East Lothian farmer, after him. Mr Alexander Alexander, commonly called "Sandie Elshander" in the country, was for many years tenant of Yarrow, and a well-known man. He was a strong-built man and had a remarkably strong voice. It has been said it could be heard at Stenton when he was standing in the high-placed steading at Yarrow haranguing his folk. His brother, Mr George Alexander, was tenant in Newmains of Stoneypath. Mr Robert Walker was long tenant in Papple, and was succeeded by Mr George Peacock, who ran two leases. Mr Wright farmed Papple Westmains, and was succeeded by the Reverend Mr Traill. Mr James Thomson came after Mr Traill. Mr Archibald Knox was tenant of Priestlaw, Mr Thomas Renwick of Mayshiel. The family of Walkers, an old East Lothian family, farmed Whitelaw for a long period. Mr Robert Walker of Ferrygate was the last of the name in Whitelaw. He was succeeded by Mr Charles Dawson in 1833. David Lawson, a well-known man in the county, was long Mr Balfour's head man at Whittinghame. Mr George Hood and Mr Alexander Whitehead were old tenants of Stoneypath. They were succeeded by Mr

John Dods,* the present tenant. Mr Archibald Jamieson was long tenant of Whittinghame farm. The steading was where Mr Smith's (factor) house and offices now stand. He died landlord of the White Swan Hotel at Duns.

There was a corn and barley mill at Pople long ago on the Garvald water, which did a deal of country business. Mr Balfour converted it into a sawmill. Several old farms and steadings are marked in Forest's old map in 1799. Cokylaw and Westfield were put into Whittinghame Mains farm, Lawhead into Papple, Bogend into Papple Westmains.

Ironstone of fine quality has been found on the farm of Garvald Grange, which may be of considerable value some day, as a line of railway has been spoken of for some time from Garvald to Edinburgh.

The farm of Whitelaw, the only one that the Earl of Wemyss and March possesses in the Parish of Whittinghame, once belonged to an old family of the name of Bissett. The farm house, which much resembles an old mansion house, has a grand sculptured coat-of-arms on the front of the house which is still in good preservation.

A William Whitelaw Wemyss of Whitelaw was enrolled as an old freeholder of the county of Haddington in 1804; perhaps he was an ancestor of the present Earl of Wemyss. The

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* Mr Dods has now left Stoneypath, and is proprietor of Rentonhall, where he resides.

house is finely situated on the base of Whitelaw Hill, and commands an extensive view of the town of Haddington, &c. It is well seen from the Haddington Station of the North British Railway.

The parish contains several beautiful rivulets. The Whittinghame Water rises in the parish of Garvald, and joins the Nunraw Burn. It runs through a beautiful glen or valley, in a winding course through Biel, Belton, and Westbarns grounds, and falls into the sea at Belhaven. Its banks are adorned and clothed with fine old trees.

The Whitadder takes its rise at the famous White Well Springs, on the north-west part of the farm of Johnscleuch, and is joined by the Fasney Water at Priestlaw, and falls into the Tweed four miles above Berwick. The Fasney rises on the farm of West Hopes, in the parish of Garvald. Sea trout and salmon are got in the Whitadder at the end of the season. Burning the water and leistering the salmon was practised long ago, and may be so yet.

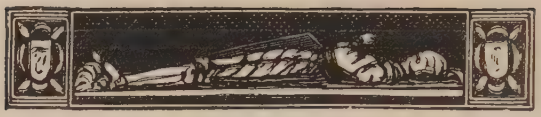
A good story has been told the writer by an old hand, who once lived at Priestlaw, about a leistering expedition. The young men and herds of the place had determined on a night's raid in the Whitadder, and were busy one day cutting up old bags and smearing them with tar to make torches. Mr James Darling, tenant of Priestlaw, noticed what was going on but said nothing.

The gang, after they had got their supper,

proceeded down the water, and soon were engaged in burning and leistering. Mr Darling and Mr Johnstone, of Millknowe, followed them to give them a fright. Mr Darling, from the top of a high bank above "Beckie's Pool," cried out—"Halloa, my lads, I have catched you now. I will have the whole lot of you in the police office at Duns to-morrow." They knew Mr Darling's voice, and cried out to him—"Come down, master, and gies a hand to carry home the salmon, as we have got a great lot." Mr Darling enjoyed the sport as much as any of them, and gave each a glass of whisky. A good part of the fish was kippered and smoked up their chimneys with peat reek. The herds and hinds' pantries were kept pretty rough for a considerable time.

The Fasney Water is a peculiarly interesting spot to geologists, as in it granite is found in large masses on its banks. Copper and iron ores are found embedded in the granite, which may some day be found to be valuable, if a railway is made into the district.

The late Marquis of Tweeddale at one time endeavoured to work the copper ore, and brought down miners from Cornwall for the purpose, who traced the veins, but he did not continue his operations.



PARISH OF STENTON.

THE name of the Parish of Stenton is of Saxon derivation. It was originally called Stanton, *Scotice* Stanetoun. It appears also to have been called Steinton. It was supposed to have been so-called from the adjacent lands abounding in small stones, but more likely from the abundance of excellent red freestone quarries, and the houses and cottages in the parish being built of that material earlier than those in the adjacent neighbourhoods, in place of clay or wood. The low and populous part of the parish extends to about three and a half miles from north to south, and to about three from east to west.

It is bounded on the north by parts of the Parishes of Prestonkirk and Dunbar, on the east by Spott, and on the west by Whittinghame. A portion of it formerly insulated from the main part, stretches into the Lammermoors to the distance of about eight miles from the village, and is bounded on the south by the river Whitadder and Berwickshire. By the division of Dunbar Common, however, and the

allotments of portions of it to the landed proprietors of the parish, the line to the southern extremity is now nearly unbroken, and includes Spartleton, a beautiful conical hill in the Lammermoor range, at the base of which the Parishes of Cranshaw, Longformacus, and Whittinghame approach so near to Stenton parish that inhabitants of each may almost hold conversation with one another, a very singular coincidence. The population of the parish in 1881 was 594, in 1891 556, a decrease of 38. As a means of comparison it may be here stated that in Chalmer's "Caledonia" the population in 1791 was 624. The valued rent in 1888-89 was £5831 9s, in 1890-91 £5642 11s 6d. The height of the arable part and village is about 180 feet above the level of the sea. The climate is salubrious and healthy. Like other parishes situated at the base of the Lammermoor hills, the farms are partly arable and partly pastoral. The low land contains nine farms, the pastoral six farms, partly arable, however. The arable low land is of superior quality, lying on the red freestone formation, especially Pitcox, Meiklerig, &c. The Grange Muir, part of Biel Grange farm, is heavy clay, but produces excellent crops. The hill farms rear excellent sheep stock.

Springs and burns abound in many parts of the parish. A rivulet which rises in the high ground of Stoneypath farm, runs through the Ruchlaw estate, and joins the Whittinghame water a mile or two farther down. Some miles

of the Whitadder are in Stenton parish, also the Bothwell water.

Pressmennan Loch is about one mile south from the village of Stenton. It was artificially formed about the year 1819 by Mr William Hamilton Nisbet, of Biel, the proprietor, at the east end of a deep natural valley, having Deuchrie Dod Hill and Pressmennan Hill on the south and east. Mr Nisbet built a strong breastwork at the east end. From the base of Deuchrie Dod, strong springs of pure water issued into the valley, and a small burn from the neighbouring hills wended its course through it. The water being thus dammed up, formed a beautiful loch about two miles in length and of a good breadth. It is the only loch of any consequence in East Lothian. Trout were brought from Loch Leven at considerable expense, which with tench and carp are caught in abundance, and in great perfection in their season. The hill sides surrounding the loch are undulating, steep, and finely wooded. The scenery has been compared to parts of the Rhine, and is very attractive. Numerous parties of excursionists in summer frequent the loch and dine under the shady trees, and drink pure water from the living springs, fortified with twenty drops of "Aqua," or so, as one feels inclined. The overflow water from the loch forms a pretty burn, which runs past Broxburn, &c., and falls into the sea at Broxmouth. One of the Belhaven family and a lord of session took

the tittle of Lord Pressmennan from the place. The late Mary Hamilton Nisbet Dundas some years ago built a handsome villa at the west end of the loch, finely situated, and a model of beauty and fine taste. The fine hill of Deuchrie Dod rises abruptly from the side of the loch on the south to the elevation of 968 feet. A splendid view of the surrounding country is got from the top of it. A small hamlet on the top of the hill, before one descends to the loch, has the curious and uncommon name of "Julia Crown," the country folk call it "July Croun." The origin of the name is not known.

Mr J. Hardy, of Oldcambus, secretary to the Berwickshire Naturalists Society, in 1881 communicated some interesting articles to the *Kelso Chronicle* about Biel and Stenton, extracts from which are very interesting and worth preserving:—

"The lands of Biel, Stenton, Pitcox, and Belton were members of the great possessions of the potent Earls of Dunbar and March. Biel first appears under the name of Bele, as the name of the rivulet that passes the present mansion-house, and it also gives its name to the village of Belhaven, situated at its mouth. Biel was the portion of Sir Patrick Dunbar, fourth son of George, tenth Earl of Dunbar, by Christian, daughter of Sir William Seton, of Seton. On the 13th September, 1489, Sir Robert Lauder, of the Bass, purchased from Hugh, son of Sir Patrick Dunbar, his lands of

Biel. In 1644, he was no longer laird of Biel, as it passed into the hands of John Hamilton, formerly styled of Bromehill, and his spouse, Margaret Hamilton. This Sir John Hamilton was a prominent man and a steady adherent of Charles I., by whom he was raised to the peerage in 1647, by the title of Lord Belhaven and Stenton. The fifth Lord Belhaven and Stenton died at Biel unmarried in 1774. The family estate then devolved on Mrs Mary Hamilton Nisbet, of Pencaitland, wife of Mr William Nisbet, of Dirleton, she being the nearest heir of descent from James Hamilton, of Pencaitland (Lord Pencaitland), second son of Lord Pressmennan. The son of Mrs Mary Hamilton Nisbet and Mr William Nisbet was Mr William Nisbet, who after the death of his mother added greatly to the mansion-house of Biel. His lady was Mary, daughter of General Lord Robert Manners, from whom the present family is descended."

Biel House is a superb building, standing on the edge of the northern raised bank of the Biel Burn, and consists of an extensive range of handsome buildings of various ages, and several styles of architecture. Three tiers of flower terraces break what would otherwise be very precipitous ground to the south, the stone breastwork and buttresses of these terraces being overgrown with shrubs and evergreen creepers, from amidst which, at intervals, peep the relieving grey of the old walls. At the base of these terraces, a fine stretch of lawn spreads

out to the banks of the rivulet. The late Mr Hamilton-Nisbet of Biel added greatly to the extent and beauty of the house, gardens, and policies, having during a series of years expended nearly £40,000. To do justice to the pictures, beautiful sculptures, and works of art in the entrance hall and scattered elsewhere throughout this extensive residence would require a special catalogue. Of the statuary, mention may be made of a colossal bust of Napoleon by Thorwaldsen ; a full-length statue of Psyche by Campbell, and one by Westmacott entitled "The Homeless Wanderer."

Of nearly one hundred valuable paintings by great masters, not to mention fine examples of other eminent artists, mention may be made of three very fine examples by Vandyke, viz., the first Duke and Duchess of Hamilton, and the second Duke of Hamilton. He is, moreover, further represented by portraits of the first Lord and Lady Belhaven, and Charles the First, and his two nephews Prince Rupert and Prince Maurice. Of other family portraits are several of the Manners family by Allan Ramsay, Sir Peter Lely, Gainsborough, and Sir Thomas Lawrence ; Sir Geoffrey Kneller is represented by a fine portrait of Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, and Thomson of Duddingston by the Island of Fidra. Murillo has a sacred piece "The Flight into Egypt," and of the other sacred paintings may be mentioned "Christ at the Well" (School of Caracci) ; "The Tribute Money" (supposed to be Ribera) ; "Christ

Preaching from the Boat" (Lingebach); and "Christ in the Temple" (Tucchero). Several Dutch artists are represented, and some good copies of the great masters' masterpieces may be seen.

The charter chest is said to contain many valuable historical papers. The second Lord Belhaven took an active part in resisting the Union of the Parliaments, and much of his correspondence is preserved, as well as letters in the handwriting of Charles II., and other writings of the Stuart period.

Among the curios may be noted a necklace of pearls presented by Queen Elizabeth to an ancestress of the family; a chain of gold which belonged to William Pitt, and a locket containing a portion of his hair, which that Statesman presented to one of the Dundas family; a beautiful copy of Cranmer's Bible, published in 1562; and a Prayer Book with an interesting history. This book, bound in red velvet, and of last century's date, belonged to Lady Robert Manners, and was borrowed because of its clear type by Archbishop Secker of Canterbury, whose sight was not good, in order that he might use it when he officiated at the marriage of George III. Subsequent use of the book at Royal marriages caused it to be looked upon as bringing luck to those who were married when it was used; and, as the book itself contains a record of the functions at which it has been used, each record signed by the officiating Primate, its value is enhanced. It

was used at the baptism of George IV. (1762); at the marriages of Princess Augusta (1764); Princess Charlotte of Wales (1816); Princess Mary (1816); Princess Elizabeth (1818); Duke of Cambridge (1818); William IV. (1818); Duke of Kent (1818); H.R.H. The Prince of Wales (1863); Duke of Edinburgh (1874); The Duke of Connaught (1879), &c.

An Athenian chair brought from Athens, and bearing the symbol of Minerva, stands on the upper terrace under cover, and goes by the suggestive name of St Paul's Chair. It was brought from Greece by the late Mr Hamilton-Nisbet in the early part of the century. Here also is a stone which at one time had occupied a prominent position above the doorway, in the front of the house, and which attests in a very emphatic manner to the dislike entertained by the second Lord Belhaven to the Union of the Parliaments of Scotland and England. It bears the following inscription :—

Traditionis Sco.
Anno Primo
1707.

e.g.—In the first year of the betrayal of Scotland.

The deer park is a very extensive one, and is always well stocked. There is a grand cedar of Lebanon, one of the largest, it is said, in Britain. It was brought from London in a flower pot by an old Lord Belhaven, the anti-unionist, about the beginning of 1700. Fifty years ago the girth of it was fourteen feet, height, thirty feet, the expansion of the

branches from trunk, thirty feet, and the circumference of drop about 200 feet.

Biel House was long ago the residence of Mrs Ferguson, a kind and generous hearted lady, who lived in good style and drove her carriage with four gallant greys and postillions, and did a deal of good in the country. Lady Mary Nisbet Dundas succeeded her. The old church of Stenton was of very ancient date. It is said to have been built in the 12th century, and was very incommodious, small, and damp. Mrs Ferguson, with a generous liberality peculiar to herself, proposed to the other heritors to assess them at the rate only of nine hundred pounds to build a new church, she giving a much larger sum, if they would allow her to adopt the plan which she might prefer. This proposal was agreed to by the rest of the heritors. The design was by Mr Burn, architect, in the modern gothic style, with a magnificent tower—quite a landmark in the district—no galleries, the pulpit in the centre, and the family seat opposite. It has accommodation for four hundred persons, and cost about £2000. It was opened by the late Dr Chalmers, 4th October, 1829. A stained window has been lately placed in the west end, which has a splendid effect. Stenton Parish Church is one of the most elegant in the county. It is placed in a capital situation to be well seen and admired.

The ruins of the old church still remaining are the old tower and part of the walls, and

these show that in its day it must have been no mean country kirk. A fine Norman arch doorway on the south side had been the principal entrance. On the west side a strong square building formed the belfry, an imposing structure, which is now a habitation for a colony of pigeons, kays, etc. On the east end of the old church is the family burial vault of the Biel family, in which many an old Hamilton is buried. The churchyard is large, and contains many old tombstones of much interest. A large baptismal font stands on the south side of the old church, a relic of olden times. A splendid memorial Celtic pillar of granite has been lately erected to the memory of the late Right Hon. Robert Adam Christopher Dundas, elaborately carved and embellished, which is much admired. The memorial was executed by Messrs Macdonald, Field, & Co., Aberdeen, in Peterhead red granite from full-sized models and drawings of every ornament and figure produced on it, furnished by Mr William Steell, under the superintendence of his distinguished father, Sir John Steell. To obtain a faithful representation of an Ionic cross, and to embody the salient features that appear in the best examples, Mrs Hamilton Nisbet Ogilvy spent a considerable time in studying the sculptured stones of Scotland before this splendid memorial to her loving and honoured parent could be realized.

From a sketch by the Rev. George Marjoribanks, B.D., minister of the parish, which

appeared in "Life and Work," we obtain the following description of this elaborate monument :—"This form of the Cross, so unique a specimen of which we have in this parish, is distinctly national, being generally called that of Iona, and is frequently found amongst the old sculptured stones of Scotland. Its front faces the east. Taking first, therefore, a front view of the structure, it will be observed that in the centre of the circular head there appears the sacred monogram, formed of the two first letters, in Greek, of the name Christ, the circle itself being symbolical of eternity. If we now look from the circular head of the cross, it will be observed that on each of the four arms there are emblematic figures, these being symbolical of one or other of the writers of the Gospels. On the left arm is the Winged Man, emblematic of St Matthew, who treats chiefly of the human nature of Christ. On the right arm, looking toward the cross, is the Winged Lion, emblematic of the Resurrection, of which the lion was in early times accepted as the symbol, and assigned to St Mark, because he dwells in his Gospel on the Resurrection. On the lower limb we find the Winged Bull, emblematic of the Passion of Christ, and the symbol of St Luke, who dwells on the Atonement and Priesthood of our Lord, which is fitly set forth by the Ox, the beast of sacrifice. At the top we have the Eagle, emblematic of St John, because he dwells specially on the Divine Nature of Christ, thereby soaring higher, as it were, than any of the

other sacred writers. On the shaft, and between these evangelistic symbols and the thorns encircling the sacred monogram, there is lacing ornamental work, somewhat modified from old examples. The back of the cross shows on the centre of the head the Sacred Dove, symbol of the Holy Ghost and emblem of purity, descending surrounded by winged cherubs; while at the bottom of the shaft are three fishes, placed triangularly, and denoting baptism in the name of the Holy Trinity. The four limbs or arms have groups formed of grapes or ears of wheat, emblematic of the Sacrament of the Eucharist. On the shaft, and between the arms and centre, there is, as on the front, though of a different type, ornamental interlacing work from old crosses. The north side of the cross presents, in combination with interlacing ornaments, the lily of the Annunciation with the rose; and on the other side, similarly combined, are palm leaves—emblematic of the Christian's victory, and pomegranates—suggestive of hope in the Resurrection. On the base, in letters copied from an old cross of the middle of the fourteenth century, is the following inscription:—

ROBERT A. DUNDAS C. NISBET HAMILTON.

Born Feb. 9, A.D. 1804. Died June 9, A.D. 1877.

'*Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.*'

'*Grant them, Lord, eternal rest, and let perpetual light shine upon them.*'

An elegant square pillar marks the burial place of the old family of Deans, long tenants in the farms of Biel Grange and East Fenton ; an inscription on it records the death of Henry Deans, born 1751, died 1844, aged 93, and of his wife, Isabella M'Guffie, who died in 1845, aged 81, also of his son, Mr Francis Deans, who died tenant of East Fenton in 1834 by a fall from his horse, a very estimable and much esteemed gentleman. The old family of the Deans, of Biel Grange and East Fenton and Penston, all buried in Stenton, were about the oldest in the county of East Lothian.

A Mr Alexander Davidson was minister of Stenton in 1798. He was succeeded by the Rev. Henry Gray, A.M., who was translated to Buccleuch Chapel of Ease, Edinburgh, and afterwards to St Mary's Church and Parish, Edinburgh, a clergyman of much worth and ability. He was succeeded by the Rev. Robert Balfour Grahame, who was translated to North Berwick. The Rev. David Logan succeeded Mr Grahame, who died 23rd May, 1849, having been twenty-six years minister of the parish. The Rev. Thomas Marjoribanks came after Mr Logan, who died in 1868. The Rev. George Marjoribanks, B.D., his son, is the present much esteemed incumbent.

Lord Pressmennan and his son, Lord Belhaven, to improve their property by the institution of fairs (a device common at that period), presented a petition to the king, and states of Parliament, craving a warrant to hold

two yearly fairs and a weekly market at Stenton, which with the customs was granted to them in 1669. Stenton fairs were held for a long series of years on the last Tuesdays of June and October, O.S., and were inserted in the list of Scotch Fairs in Oliver & Boyd's Edinburgh Almanack as late as 1862. Cattle, sheep, and wool were the principal articles sold. The fairs are now extinct. A remnant of the Stenton fairs is still to be seen at the east end of the village in the shape of a short pillar, on the top of which was placed a Tron weighing machine for weighing wool which was brought to the fair for sale from the hill farms. The pillar has been utilized for the useful purpose of a lamp being placed on it to light the village on dark nights.

The present landed proprietors in the parish are Mrs Hamilton Nisbet Ogilvy, who owns nine-tenths of the parish, Mr T. B. Sydserff, of Ruchlaw; Sir George Grant Suttie, Bart., of Balgone, &c.

Stenton village is a very respectable looking place, a number of good houses being in it, and country shops, such as a general merchant, baker and butcher, carpenters, masons, and blacksmiths. An elegant new schoolhouse has been built in a fine situation at the west end of the village. The manse is directly opposite the church. A common belonging to the feuars of Stenton exists to this day in lands called the Stenton buchts. A Mr William Crombie was long ago an extensive general merchant in

Stenton, whose daughter, Violet, was married to the Rev. Professor John Brown, of Haddington, in 1771. Mr Crombie was long an active member of the Society of Chapmen of the Lothians. Mr John Crombie, long merchant in Haddington, was his brother, a well known man in his day. Mr John Grierson was long a merchant in Stenton, also Mr Carse and Mr Masterton. At one time there were a number of weavers in Stenton; now there is not one. John Affleck, a great friend of the late Mr George Brown, of Halls, and one of his disciples, was one of the last of them. He walked from Stenton to Haddington to Mr Brown's meeting every Sunday as long as he was able. He was a good, worthy man. A Mr William Ainslie lived long in a large house at the east end of the village. He was proprietor of a sugar estate on the island of Mauritius, and is understood to have died there.

Stenton seems to have had its quota of witches long ago, for it is recorded in Spottiswood's Miscellany of 1st March 1659 that Bessie Knox and other four women were convicted of witchcraft by their own confession, and were strangled and burnt. They were called the Stenton witches.

Mr David Purves was for twelve years parochial schoolmaster of Stenton, having succeeded a Mr William Welch in 1824. He was the son of Mr Andrew Purves, late baker and farmer in Stenton for many years. He was a

good, worthy man. Mr Purves resumed his college studies in 1836, when Mr James Fraser became his substitute in 1838. He was appointed schoolmaster of Abbotshall Parish, county of Fife, when Mr Fraser was appointed his successor in Stenton. Mr Purves took the side of the Free Church at the Disruption of 1843, was licensed as a minister of it, and was elected to the Free Church at Aberdour. A few years after he was translated to the Free Church of Maxwelton, Dumfries. In both places he was very popular as an ardent gospel minister. He died very suddenly, 30th May 1883, and in the 40th year of his ministry, when attending the General Assembly of the Free Church, and was buried in St Cuthbert's Cemetery, Edinburgh. Mr James Fraser has been 55 years parochial schoolmaster of Stenton, hence he is without doubt the oldest parochial schoolmaster living in East Lothian or perhaps in Scotland. In 1891 he resigned his office, and Mr Brown was appointed his successor. He, however, retains his offices of registrar of the parish, etc.

During his long incumbency many hundreds of pupils, both male and female, have received their education from him. He was very successful in instilling into their minds "the young idea how to shoot." Many of his pupils have distinguished themselves in life, and have risen to places of honour and trust, and retain in their memory the rudiments of their early education received in Stenton School under his able

tuition. Amongst a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, Mr Fraser was always much esteemed, and many were proud to make his acquaintance. His kindness, affable manners, hospitality, and intelligence have singled him out as a man of very superior attainments and abilities. His friends wish him much enjoyment in his now vale of years in his retirement from the duties of a parochial teacher. He is still well and healthy.

A little to the east of the village of Stenton, on the north side of the public road, there is a famous well, called the Rude or Rood Well, covered by a circular stone building of elegant shape, surmounted by an apex, in the form of a cardinal's hat. A legend has been handed down that the tenure of the Biel estate depends on the keeping up of this hat. It is said to have been built and placed there by the Monks of Melrose or Jedburgh, who owned the lands about Stenton long ago. The well might have been placed there in olden times by the Monks to refresh weary travellers or pilgrims with a draught of cool and refreshing living water. (The Monks were not bad folks long ago.) The spring must come down from the higher ground on the south. A story is told of a Stenton person, who, when going away to a foreign land, deposited in the cardinal's hat some silver coins for "luck." When he came home many years after he found his coins still there—rather a singular incident!

The Lintmill on the Biel water was long

employed in heckling and preparing lint for spinning, to be afterwards woven into cloth by the country weavers for sheets, &c., hence its name. The ground and locality formed by an abrupt corner or elbow of the Biel water is very pleasantly and warmly situated. The place is now occupied by Mr William Nisbet, a man of genius and energy, who keeps the garden grounds in excellent order, and raises grand fruits and roots. Mr Nisbet was long known as an excellent photographer, and produced many striking likenesses of county ladies and gentlemen. A group of four East Lothian well known gentlemen is still in existence, but scarce now. They were Mr John R. Dale, of Auldhame; Mr David Anderson, of Blackdykes; Mr James Robertson, of Biel Grange; Mr George Hood, of Lochhouses. Mr Robertson, who emigrated to New Zealand, is the only one now living. Mr Nisbet is well known as an excellent wood-carver and produces specimens of the art, tasteful in design, and superlative in workmanship.

Near the Lint Mill is a famous quarry called the Ginglets.

The old farmers in the parish were Mr Wm. Brodie, of Little Spott. He was a much respected gentleman, a member of a very old East Lothian family. He got the name of Count Brodie. He was succeeded by his son William, and afterwards by John, who is the last of the Brodies of Little Spott. Mr Gray and

his son Andrew were long tenants in Pitcox. Mr James Taylor came after them, and then Dr Charles Nelson. A notice of Mr George Brown is given at length in the account of the parish of Garvald. Mr John Dods ran a lease on Pathhead. Mr James Tweedie also ran one on Deuchrie. Mr James Lyle was also a long time in Deuchrie. Mr Charles Amos, a well known man in his day, farmed Pressmennan and New Barn. Mr Andrew Purves came after him. Mr John Dods was in Meiklerig for a lease.

Mr John Buchan Sydserff, of Ruchlaw, a former proprietor, was one of the few Liberal Reform proprietors in East Lothian, and he was an ardent and enthusiastic one. When the Reform Bill of 1832 passed its final vote, Mr Sydserff lighted on Deuchrie Dod—a high and prominent hill on his estate—a large bonfire, which was seen from a long distance in most parts of the county, Fifeshire, etc.

For a long period of years two Willie Arnots, father and son, were the weekly carriers and cadgers from Stenton to Edinburgh, a distance of twenty-four to twenty-five miles. In their weekly journeys, summer and winter, they encountered many a severe blast going up Blaikie Heugh on their way home. The son was a well known man on the road. After the North British Railway was opened his trade fell very much away, and he got employment as a porter at the railway station at East Linton. His railway cap had on it the letters N.B.R.

One of his old cronies asked him one day what the letters meant. "Oh!" he said, "they denote a 'noted blackguard reformed.'" A country carrier and cadger, in the long distance of twenty-four to twenty-five miles, must have been a very monotonous and hard life. It is said Willie Arnot always rested his horse, and fortified his inner man at Kirstie Robertson's hostelry at Crossgatehall before he ascended Blaikie Heugh. The phrase "The true Arnot" is still known to old Scotch folk. It denotes articles or characters of people as honest or true. How it arose is not exactly known, but it is possible it arose from the Willie Arnots of Stenton. It is still known in some parts of Scotland. The writer once met with an illustration of the phrase in London. Many years ago he was waiting for a train at King's Cross Station to come down to Scotland, and went into a refreshment house to put off the time. He asked the waitress to bring him a gill of the best Scotch whisky. She said they sold nothing but quarterns and half quarterns. Two respectable persons were sitting in the room. One of them said to me, "Oh, you may ask for Scotch whisky here, but you will not get it. They have none of the 'true Arnot' here." The two persons were Scotch shipmasters from Montrose, who had come to London with their ships, and were going home to Montrose. They proved very agreeable companions all the way down. When asked how they knew the phrase "Willie Arnot," they said it was well known in the

north. One of them said he had heard it used in a port in the Mediterranean by some Scotsmen. John Amos, of Ruchlaw Muir, a hamlet above Stenton Brae, succeeded Willie Arnot for many years as Stenton and Edinburgh carrier.

Pitcox is a small village east from Stenton. Its old name was Petcokkys, and it gave its name to the whole parish of Stenton at one time. At the epoch of the ancient Taxatio (1176) the rectory of Petcoks was assessed at 10 merks, while in Bagimont's Roll (1275) it is rated at £2 13s 4d. It was a rectory of the Collegiate Church of Dunbar, to which it had been, with others, annexed by Patrick, Earl of March, in 1342. Soon after the constitution of the Collegiate establishment several of the annexations were formed into parish churches independent of the Mother Church, and of these Spott and Stenton still remain separate parishes. Part of the ruins of the old rectory buildings were in existence forty years ago. The village is now a very small one. The farmhouse and relative buildings are extensive and commodious, suited to the requirements and extent of the fine large farm.

A number of small interesting places are to be found in Lammermuir, such as Friardykes, where it is recorded that the ill-behaved and refractory Monks and Friars of Melrose were banished to, hence its name. It belonged to Mr Sydserff of Ruchlaw. It contains some good arable lands, and is a very pleasant hill place in summer, but in a severe winter, when

blocked up with snow for weeks, it is a dreary and secluded place. A Thomas Trotter was an old tenant of it. Friardykes has now been placed by the County Council of Haddingtonshire in the Parish of Spott. Beltondod, otherwise called long ago Benty Dod, belongs to Mr Hay of Belton, and is a small hill place adjoining Friardykes. The following old story, illustrating the customs and manners of a Lammermuir tenant of olden times, may be interesting at the present time :—

"Beltondod is a small sheep farm stretching along the base of Spartleton, the highest of the Lammermoor range. Isolated in the bosom of the hills, its situation is peculiarly wild and solitary. Towards the close of the last century it was occupied by Mr James Dods, a man of primitive manners and much simplicity of character, who knew little of the world beyond what he saw fit within the range of his native hills. He was the last specimen of the old-fashioned hill farmer in that part of the country. On one occasion he made a journey on horseback to Belton House, the seat of his landlord, Mr James Hay of Belton, for the purpose of paying his rent. On that memorable day he was dressed in his best suit of clothes—a sky blue coat, waistcoat, breeches, a pair of grey stocking hose reaching from above the knees to his shoes, which they partly covered, in the manner of modern gaiters, and on his head he wore a flat lowland blue bonnet. His riding gear was no less primitive than his dress. A

pair of sods served him for a saddle, to each of which were attached straw ropes for supporting his legs in the manner of stirrups, and he guided his stout nag by means of a pair of branks instead of a bridle. Thus equipped, he proceeded on his journey, accompanied by two noble collies, which were his constant companions. On arriving at Belton House, Mr Dods inquired of a groom if a 'man could get his beast put up for a blink.' 'Put up your beast,' echoed the party addressed, scanning the singular appearance of the querist, and concluding that he had come there through some mistake, 'Put up your beast, friend! do you take this for an inn! Go to Dunbar and inquire for an inn; but I daresay you never saw one in your life!' While the man continued to address the stranger in still more uncivil terms, Mr Hay, who, from a window, had witnessed the arrival of his tenant, and the uncourteous reception he met with, threw up the sash, and in a peremptory tone ordered his servant instantly to put up Mr Dods' horse into the stable, and to see it properly attended to. The mandate was obeyed with alacrity, and Mr Dods, with his pair of collies, was ushered in due form into the presence of his laird. After the usual salutations, Mr Dods drew from his pocket a napkin, in the corner of which the amount of the rent in hard cash was carefully tied, and handed it to Mr Hay, observing that he would find it 'a' richt, for the gudewife had tauld it a' ower yestreen mair than ance.' Money matters being settled, Mr

Hay proposed to introduce Mr Dods to Mrs Hay, who said she wished to become acquainted with him. Mr Dods was asked to dine with him, which, after sundry excuses as to it being 'ower muckle fash' to them, and so forth, he consented to do. The dinner presented a rich scene of originality. Mr Dods being a purely unsophisticated character, and totally ignorant of the manners of the great, felt more at ease than many a better man would have done in similar circumstances, simply because he was happily unconscious of the many breaches of decorum he committed. Accordingly, delighted with the honour conferred on him, he answered questions, quoted wise saws, and cracked his jokes to the no small amusement of his host and hostess. He did, however, make some sad blunders in etiquette ; amongst others, when he had picked some bones with his teeth, he threw them over his shoulder on to the carpet for the benefit of his collies that stood behind his chair anxiously watching his motions. It was in vain that Mrs Hay begged that he would not give himself so much trouble, and the servants would feed the dogs afterwards. Mr Dods understood not her polite hints, and replied 'Nae trauble ava', madam. I just dae sic like at hame, the faithfu' creatures like a bit frae my hand best,' and over went another bone, and at last he actually set down the plate with its greasy contents on the floor to the 'dougs,' never once dreaming of the damage he was doing to Mrs Hay's Brussels carpet.

But with all his deviations from the rules of the table, the dinner passed off to the mutual satisfaction of the entertainers and the entertained, and, after drinking wine with his laird, Mr Dods, bade a grateful adieu, mounted his horse, and rode home to 'Benty Dod' with a glee equal to that of Tam o' Shanter when he had witnessed the dances of the witches at Alloway Kirk. When he reached his farm and was passing through his flocks, he exclaimed with the joy of his heart, 'Aye you may take a dainty supper the nicht for I've loused a' your heads.' It need not be doubted that the important events of the day were faithfully recited to his family, and they afterwards enlivened his fireside for many a winter night."

A small spot formerly part of Dunbar common, called "Yad Lee" is near Belton Dod on the farm of Millknowe, and in Stenton parish. It has a snug shepherd's house on it. It is said to have got the name of Yadlee, from the Dunbar folk sending young horses and old mares, commonly called "Yads," to graze during the summer months on a well sheltered haugh on the banks of a hill burn. On the farm of Millknowe, the ruins of an old Castle, or Peel Tower, still remain called Gamelshiels. It has a history of its own, and is situated in a deep glen or ravine. It is understood to have been a residence of the family of the Home Rigg of Downfield and Morton in Fifeshire, and of Gamelshiel and Millknowe in Haddingtonshire.

PARISH OF SPOTT.

THE name of this parish is said to have been given it on account of its retired and sheltered position and smallness of extent. The name is incorrect and inappropriate when applied to the parish generally. It is not well sheltered, for there are a good many high exposed places in it, and it is not an uncommon small parish, for there are twelve farms in it, and it is ten miles long and five broad. Neither is the name significant, for there is a farm in the immediate vicinity, in the Parish of Stenton, called Little Spott, and in the Parish of Dunbar there are farms called Meikle and Little Pinkerton. It is, however, probable that the parish took its name from the village, or more likely the old House, which is well sheltered.

Dunbar Outer Common was formerly understood to be in Dunbar Parish, but since it was sold and divided it is in the Parish of Spott and other contiguous ones.

Spott is bounded on the north by Dunbar Parish, on the east by Dunbar and Innerwick, on the south by Cranshaws, and the west by Stenton and Dunbar. It contains 2800 arable acres and 1100 to 1200 of hill pasture. The population in 1871 was 560; in 1881, 579; in 1891, 475—a decrease of 104. The valued rent in 1889 was £6006; in 1890-91, £5966 8s 8d. The chief proprietors are Miss Watt of Spott, Mr James Warren Hastings Anderson, of Bowerhouse; the Duke of Roxburghe, the Earl of Haddington, Sir George Grant Suttie, Bart., of Balgone, and Mrs Nisbet Hamilton-Ogilvy of Biel.

The whole parish is an alternation of hill and dale. The highest part of the Lammermoor ridge is 700 feet above the level of the sea; Doon Hill, over 580; the Brunt Hill, 737.

Spott Burn runs through the valley, on the south of which the church and village are situated. It is joined by a small one, and falls into the sea at Broxmouth, where it gets the name of Broxburn. The Bothwell Water, on the south side of the parish in Lammermoor, runs into the Whitadder near Cranshaws. It is well stocked with small trout.

The geology of the Parish of Spott is similar to that of Innerwick, being composed principally of graywacke and conglomerate, interspersed with trap. There is also a considerable extent of old red sandstone, especially in the valley of the Spott Water. The soil is in general light and sandy, and fertile in raising excellent crops

of roots, grass, and cereals, both in quantity and quality.

The principal historical event connected with the parish is the Battle of Doon Hill, otherwise of Dunbar, in 1650. General Leslie's army was encamped on Doon Hill—a strong and most commanding situation. It marched down to the low ground in the vicinity of Brand's Mill and Broxmouth, when Cromwell made his attack on the Scots and defeated them with great slaughter. The remains of the Scots army encampment are still visible on the top of the hill. From the top of Doon Hill a very grand and extensive view is to be seen. The whole of the east coast of Haddingtonshire, and the Berwickshire coast, as far as Fast Castle and St Abb's, are embraced in the view. Broxmouth house and grounds, encircled with its fine old woods, lie before you, and the fine fertile farms on the coast are spread out below. Westwards, Traprain and North Berwick Laws, the Garleton Hills, Gullane Hill, the Firth of Forth, with the fine places and objects on the coast, are seen. Towards the south the Lammermoor Hills bound the view, dividing East Lothian from Berwickshire. The Cheviot, Pentland, and Fife Hills are also seen in the distance, with Arthur Seat, Edinburgh Castle, Tinto, in Lanarkshire, &c. It is reckoned that no less than twelve counties can be seen in a clear day from the top of Doon Hill. On the north side a considerable quantity of fine wood grows, through which a nice footpath above

Doon farm, commanding an extensive view, has been formed by Miss Watt of Spott, who has liberally allowed visitors to walk along it on certain days of the week. On the Queen's Jubilee night a large bonfire was lighted, which was seen from a long distance round about. Forty such bonfires, in different counties, were seen that night from Doon Hill. At the south-west part of the parish the remains of a Roman or Danish camp are still visible, with a deepish trench round it. Ancient relics of weapons of war have been found there. The field still gets the name of "The Camp." In Forrest's old map of East Lothian the site of it is named as a Roman camp, and the high ground on which it had been placed, "Chesters." In a field on the farm of Easter Broomhouse there stands a large stone slab, similar to the pillars at Standingstone, Kirklandhill, Traprain, &c. The origin of it is unknown. It must have marked the site of some Druidical events or battle in olden times. The stone is 9 to 10 feet high, and had likely been brought from the south side of Traprain Law, where similiar trap rock is to be seen to this day.

The property and barony of Spott long belonged to the old family of the Hays, connected with the Marquis of Tweeddale's family. Mr Robert Hay of Spott and Eastbarns, long convener of the county, and a deputy-lieutenant, was the last of the old Hays of Spott.

Spott was sold, with the patronage of the

parish, about 1836, to Mr James Sprott. Miss Watt is the present proprietrix. Mr Sprott, after he acquired the estate, renovated and made large additions to the mansion house, which had been built by one of the Hays two or three centuries ago. Mr James Dorward, builder, Haddington, was the tradesman who renovated the house. It is built on red sandstone rock and conglomerate. A small burn runs round the house, which long ago ran open in front past the principal entrance door. It was crossed by a draw-bridge. Being thus surrounded by water and high banks, the house was inaccessible to free booters, thieves, or raiders in olden times. An arch culvert 8 feet high, built, no doubt, at a great expense, in front of the house was substituted for the open burn and draw-bridge. General Leslie, with some of the other officers of the Scots army, slept in Spott House the night before the battle of Dunbar. The window of the room is still pointed out. Spott House with grounds is a gem of a mansion house, and vies in situation with almost any other in East Lothian. The avenue from the village is a very fine and noble one. Large old trees in a double row on each side, planted centuries ago, form an exquisite adornment, and strike a stranger with admiration. The garden, close on the south side of the mansion house, on account of the knolly, unequal, and broken surface, is quite unique and beautiful. A grandly wooded glen on the west side adds much to the picturesque amenity of

the garden. From almost every point splendid views of Dunbar Church and coast are to be got. A garden house or arbour, with ponds in front and figures of griffins, &c., in them, is well worth much study and attention.

The arbour is formed of home wood, grown, no doubt, at Spott. It is a grand specimen of what a garden house or bower should be. The garden hot-houses and green-houses are stocked with the finest flowers, shrubs, vines, peaches, fruit trees, and berry-yielding bushes, &c. Mr Cossar, the gardener, a most intelligent, kind, and affable gentleman, deserves much credit in keeping Spott garden and pleasure grounds in such an admirable state of order, excellence, and taste. Spott Dean or Glen commences immediately below the north side of the mansion house. The burn runs through it, down to the point where the green haughs of Spott begin. Steep banks, clothed with splendid old trees, adorn their sides. Footpaths are formed on each side, which at many points bring the beautiful scenery into view, which cannot but be much admired by visitors and strangers. Miss Watt intends to throw a footbridge across the Dean to view the several cascades, pools, and waterfalls among the rocks in the burn, which, when it is in full "bir"—or flood—must be very grand. Thousands of young trees and shrubs have been planted on the banks to replace the great damage done in the great storm of wind in October 1881, by the blowing down of hundreds of fine old trees. There is hardly another place

in East Lothian which can equal Spott Dean for natural beauty. Miss Watt keeps the whole estate of Spott in her own hands by the Home Farm, Spott, and Doon, about 1000 acres along with the rich old grass fields. Mr Alexander Stenhouse, an East Lothian man, born and bred, is her able and intelligent manager. The farms are cultivated in first-rate scientific and agricultural style and the utmost exertions are used to produce good crops. Mr Stenhouse has a good deal to look after and attend to with such an extent of arable land, &c. The village of Spott was at one time much larger than it is now. There was at one time a village public-house in it, and a tailor's shop whose sign notified that he was "Tailor and Clothier from London." The schoolhouse and school, a smith's and joiner's establishments with farm servants' houses constitute the whole village besides the manse and offices. Lately Miss Watt has built new houses in the improved modern style. The older houses are to be taken down and rebuilt. On the roadside in the corner of a field west from the village there stands an ancient ash tree, which is called the Birla tree, which has a history. In older times every village had a Birley or Bourla Court with a Bailie and Councillors appointed by the Lord of the Manor, who heard and adjudicated on village disputes, very trifling sometimes no doubt. It is very probable that at this tree and under its branches the Birley or Bourla Court was held, hence its name. The

parish of Spott was of old renowned as the habitation of witches, In the kirk session records dated 1698 there is found the following statement :—"The session, after a long examination of witnesses, refer the case of Marion Lillie for imprecations and witchcraft to the Presbytery, who refer for trial to the civic magistrate, the said Marion generally called the 'Rigwood Witch.'" In October, 1705, many witches were burnt on the top of Spott Loan. It is generally believed that the last witch who was burnt in the south of Scotland was at Spott. The famous old "Witches Stone" of Spott was lost sight of for nearly thirty years, having been buried under the successive road scrapings and trimmings, until discovered by the present minister of the parish, the Rev. Lothian Gray, M.A., after considerable searching, through the help of an old hedger and dyker, Thomas Bell. It can now be seen to the west of the village. Miss Watt has promised to raise it and to put a paling round it. Almost every parish in East Lothian was infested with warlocks and witches at one time. It may be interesting now to narrate a conversation which took place about witchcraft betwixt the great Dr Samuel Johnson, of literary fame, and Mr Andrew Crosbie, a famous advocate in his day, and Dean of Faculty of Advocates. His portrait hangs in the long room of the Parliament House of Edinburgh. The conversation is narrated in Boswell's journal of a tour with Dr Johnson to the Hebrides published

in 1785, and is as follows :—"At supper we had Dr Cullen, Dr Adam Ferguson, and Mr Adam Crosbie, advocate. Witchcraft was introduced. Mr Crosbie said he thought it the greatest blasphemy to suppose evil spirits counteracting the Deity, and raising storms, for instance, to destroy his creatures. Dr Johnson replied "Why, sir, if moral evil be consistent with the government of the Deity, why may not physical evil be also consistent with it. It is not more strange that there should be evil spirits than evil men, evil unembodied spirits than evil embodied spirits. And as to storms, we know there are such things, and it is no worse that evil spirits raise them, than that they rise." Crosbie—"But it is not credible that witches should have effected what they are said in stories to have done." Johnson—"Sir, I am not defending their credibility. I am only saying that your arguments are not good, and will not overturn the belief of witchcraft. And then, sir, you have all mankind, rude and civilised, agreeing in the belief of preternatural powers. You must take evidence. You must consider that wise and good men have condemned witches to die." Crosbie—"But an Act of Parliament put an end to witchcraft." Johnson—"No, sir, witchcraft ceased, and therefore an Act of Parliament was passed to prevent persecution for what was not witchcraft. Why it ceased we cannot tell, as we cannot tell the reason of many other things. Dr Caller, a great physician in his day, to keep up the

gratification of mysterious disquisition, with the grave address for which he is remarkable in his companionable as in his professional hours, talked in a very entertaining manner of people walking and conversing in their sleep." The existence of witches was firmly believed in in olden times by almost all classes of the community. Such belief in second sight and witchcraft has happily passed away out of the land.

The Parish Church of Spott is very old, small, and cannot boast of much beauty. Part of it is said to have been built in the Saxon style. Additions in the course of years have no doubt been made to it. A relic of olden ecclesiastical times is still fixed to the wall with a chain, at the entrance to the church, viz., "The Jougs," an iron ring, which was put round the necks of fornicators to do penance, under old ecclesiastical rules. It is perhaps now the only relic of the kind to be met with in the parishes of East Lothian. A sad and melancholy event happened with an old minister of Spott named John Kello, who was hanged in 1570 for the murder of his wife, Margaret Thomson. The murder was committed on a Sabbath day in his manse, and after he committed it, he went into the church and preached a more than ordinary eloquent sermon. At his trial in Edinburgh he pleaded guilty and made a full confession. Three hundred years ago the Rev. Patrick Simpson was minister. He was translated to Stirling. He was one of the most learned men that the Church of Scotland ever possessed, and

an undaunted upholder of its rights and privileges. A Mr John Martin was minister of Spott in 1798. The Rev. Alexander Graham succeeded him in 1808, and continued incumbent until 1840, when the Rev. Robert Burns Thomson was inducted. The Rev. Dr Duncan Stewart succeeded Mr Thomson in 1882. He was a man of learning and culture, and an able divine. The present incumbent, the Rev. Lothian Gray, was placed after Mr Stewart.

The names of a number of the old tenant farmers in the parish may now be given as interesting. Mr George Shirreff, tenant in Wester Broomhouse, was the last of an old family, who had been long tenants. He died about 1843, and was succeeded by his nephew Mr George Nelson. It is understood that he left a deal of money. It is recorded of Mr Shirreff that he always kept a lot of old stacks about him of different years' growth.

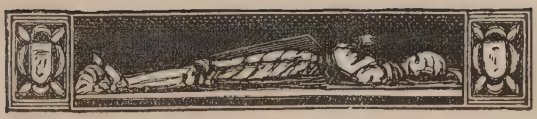
Wheat and oats generally got scarce before harvest. When buyers went to him to get supplied, he asked them what crop they would like. It came to be a general remark that there was no want of money, when there were plenty of old stacks in the stackyard. Mr Shirreff was different from another old farmer in the parish, of whom it has been recorded, that he cut oats one day, thrashed them the next, sent them to the mill, and got the oatmeal home the same night to make his shearers' porridge with.

The late Mr John Dudgeon's family were long in Easter Broomhouse. He died about

1863. He was an excellent farmer. He erected a potato starch manufactory on the Spott water, which was, for some years, carried on to a considerable extent.

Mr Roderick Mackenzie was tenant of the farm of Spott for a lease. His successor was Mr Alexander Welsh. Mr Ritchie succeeded Mr Welsh.

Mr Davidson was a lease in the Brunt. Mr Thomas D. M'Gregor, an excellent kind of man, came after him. Mr George Brown was tenant of the Halls for a long period. Mr Andrew Stevenson followed Mr Brown. Mr John Dods was a lease in the farm of Pathead. Mr Sydney Turnbull was in the Pleasants. Mr David Drysdale, of Congalton, succeeded him.



PARISH OF DUNBAR.

DUNBAR seems to have got its name from its situation, Dun signifying both in the British and Gaelic languages "the fort on the height, top, or extremity," which is quite applicable to the site of the Castle, it being built on a lofty rock. In a very interesting book, in two volumes, entitled "Remarks on the Local Scenery and Manners in Scotland during the years 1799 and 1800," by John Stodart, LL.B., published by William Miller, Old Bond Street, London, 1801, the following notice of Dunbar and the Castle is to be found in Volume II., page 254 :—"Descending now to the shore from the high road, the road runs along it a considerable way, and here the objects which, during the early part of my tour I contemplated from the sea, appear to no less an advantage in the land prospect, such as Traprain and North Berwick Laws, Dunbar Castle, the Bass, &c. Here, too, we pass Dunbar Field—

With blood of Scots embru'd—

which added so much to the military reputation

of Cromwell, by the famous defeat of Leslie in 1650. The latter, contrary, it is said, to his own judgment, descended from his advantageous position on Doon Hill to the low grounds near the Brocks or Badger Burn, which gives its name to Broxmouth, a seat of His Grace the Duke of Roxburghe. And here, Cromwell's mount, a tumulus probably raised over the slain, is still to be seen." Dunbar is a place of ancient celebrity. It is first mentioned as being given by Malcolm Canmore to Gospatrick, the expatriated Earl of Northumberland, who fled to Scotland after the conquest in 1066, and whose family afterwards took from it their surname. The Castle, whose ruins are now seated on a rock overhanging the sea, was ever esteemed one of the most important fortresses in the south of Scotland, and is denominated in some old records, Earl Patrick's "Strong House." In 1336 the wife of this Patrick Earl of March, called Black Agnes of Dunbar, bravely defended it in the absence of her husband, against William Montague, Earl of Salisbury, whom she forced to raise the siege. It is recorded that an immense battering machine, called a Sow, was brought to bear against the walls. When the Countess saw this engine advancing to the walls of the Castle, she called out to the Earl of Salisbury in derision—

"Beware, Montagow,
For farrow shall thy sow."

At the same time a large fragment of rock was hurled from the battlements, and crushed the

machine to pieces, with the poor pigs who were in it. Miller, in his "History of Dunbar," quotes three verses from a poem called "Black Agnes," viz.:—

"And do they come," Black Agnes cried,
"Nor storm, nor midnight stops our foes;
Well, then, the battle's chance be tried,
The Thistle shall outshorn the Rose."

She spake, and started from her bed,
And cased her lovely limbs in mail;
The helmet on her coal black head,
Sluiced o'er her eyes—an iron veil.

In her fair hand she grasped a spear,
A baldrick o'er her shoulders flung;
While loud the bugle-note of war,
From Dunbar's caverned echoes rung.

Hither, as Barbour, the old Scotch historian, triumphantly relates, fled Edward II. after his defeat at Bannockburn, and hither also fled Bothwell after he had taken leave of Queen Mary for the last time at Carberry Hill. This event was the cause of the Castle's demolition by the forces of the Regent Murray, since which time it has never been repaired. Its massy ruinous walls and towers, which seem to defy the touch of time, its dark basaltic cliffs, broken with huge fissures and caverns, added to the accidental circumstances of a black scowling sky and angry foaming surges, form the subject of a picture which was most poetically treated by the Scottish artist, Jacob More.

The date of the erection of the Castle cannot be exactly ascertained, but it is thought to have

been built by the Picts at a very early period, from whom Kenneth I. took it. It is narrated in history that Kenneth conferred it on one of his eminent warriors called "Bar" about the year 835, hence the town and locality was called Dunbar; but, like many other of the statements of Boece, this is a mere fable. The parish consists of a Royal Burgh and a Landward District. David II. created Dunbar a Royal Burgh about the middle of the 14th century, with a free port at La Belle Haven. Its privileges were afterwards confirmed and extended by Royal Charters of James IV. and James VI.

Carlyle, in the graphic introduction to his "Battle of Dunbar," says, "The small town of Dunbar stands high and windy, looking down over its herring boats, over its grim old castle, now much honey-combed, on one of those projecting rock promontories, with which that shore of the Firth of Forth is niched and vandyked as far as the eye can reach. A beautiful sea; good land too, now that the plougher understands his trade; a grim niched barrier of whinstone sheltering it from the chafings and tumblings of the big blue German Ocean. Seaward, St Abb's Head of whinstone bounds your horizon to the east, not very far off; west, close by is the deep bay and little village of Belhaven; the gloomy Bass and other rock islets; and farther the hills of Fife and foreshadows of the Highlands are visible as you look seaward."

The Parish of Dunbar is about eight miles in length and three in breadth, and extends along the coast of the German Ocean. The population of the parish in 1881 was 5396; in 1891, 5210, a decrease of 186. In the burgh in 1881 the population was 3659; in 1891, 3545, a decrease of 114. The parish is mostly all arable, and contains 7197 acres divided into twenty-three farms of first-class land, being an average of 213 acres each, exclusive of grass parks, woods, &c. The valued rent in 1813 was £23,405 yearly; in 1889, £20,778; in 1890-91, £20,316; in 1891-92, £19,536. It is bounded by the Parishes of Whitekirk and Prestonkirk on the west, by Stenton and Spott on the south, Innerwick on the east, and the German Ocean on the north. The figure of it is very irregular, being much indented by the sea and the land of other parishes. Between Lochend and the sea the width of the parish is contracted to within half a mile. The surface presents a very pleasing variety of hill and dale, ascending from the sea towards the Lammermoor range of hills, and commanding an extensive prospect, which displays a great variety of striking and grand objects—St Abb's Head, Traprain Law, the beauteous woods of Tyninghame, the Bass, the May, the beautiful bay of Belhaven, and Tyne Sands.

The Parish of Dunbar is the richest part of East Lothian, and the finest corn district in North Britain or perhaps in Britain. It has been justly styled "The Youk of East

Lothian." The general character of the soil is a rich, brown loam, resting on a tract of red sandstone and gravel, which runs west through the county. Towards the coast it rests upon limestone in detached portions or basins. The rocky formations are all of the secondary class, and, upon the coast, are laid bare, as if on purpose to attract the attention of the geologist. These rocks are marked with beautiful mountain spots, and they fill up the space right to the harbour, which has been cut out of a thick bed of red-coloured trap, which the late Professor Jameson called an iron shot porphyritic greenstone, the columnar structure of which is visible all round, but particularly on the west side of the battery. These columns are either pentagons, or hexagons, but not of equal sides, having one large and one small, the rest nearly equal. They resemble the columns in the Island of Staffa, and the Giant's Causeway in Ireland, and are considered a great natural curiosity. This trap formation rests upon sandstone, upon which the foundations of the old castle have been built. The whole coast rocks around Dunbar form a very interesting study to geologists.

Limestone was wrought and burned at Eastbarns and Oxwellmains for a long period of years to a large extent. Lime is still manufactured on the coast at Catcraig and Oxwellmains. At Catcraig 4000 tons of limestone have been known to have been shipped yearly to Devonshire works.

Mr Robert Hay, a late proprietor of Eastbarns, bored for coal on his property in 1840, but was not successful in finding a seam thick enough to pay. A deep cutting and severance of rock on the line of the North British Railway east from Dunbar, near Bransmill and Broxmouth, shows in a remarkable and beautiful manner the nature of the strata of the district. The late Mr Dodds, minister of the Free Church of Dunbar, wrote a very interesting description of the section of the stratified series of sandstone, shale, trap, and limestone. Travellers on the line of the railway catch a glimpse of this interesting cutting in passing. To those of a geological turn of mind it will be a sight of interest. The railway line also severs a beautiful plantation of old trees for a short space, on the surface of which in early spring are to be seen lots of cowslips and primroses bursting into full bloom. This short portion of the railway is extremely pretty. The late Hugh Millar, accompanied by Mr Dodds, once visited this interesting strata of rocks, and in his interesting article on the geology of the Bass Rock, thus describes the strata—"On passing along the railway to the east of Dunbar, where the strata exposed on each side by the excavation exhibits those alternations of sandstone aud shale, so common in the coal measures, Mr Dodds informed me that at this point the workmen had found numerous fossils; and he afterwards procured for me one of the specimens—a block of indurated shale largely

charged with two well-known corals of carboniferous limestone, 'cyathophiyllum fungites and pabipora radiatus.' A full mile and a quarter from where the primary rock first appears, we saw decided marks of the disturbance which it occasioned. The old red sandstone exhibited here in sections of enormous thickness, lies tilted up against it in an angle, which heightens as we proceed, till it assumes, at the point of junction, a nearly vertical position. But the focus of disturbance once reached, the marks of disturbance cease, and the occasional patches of the old red which here and there appear, rest horizontally on the primary rock." The strata of limestone rock here extends to the coast. It is extremely valuable for burning into lime, being full of fossils. The late Mr John Rennie, of Oxwellmains, used to call it marble limestone. With such excellent soil and a fine early climate, the Parish of Dunbar produces cereals, grass, and roots of the very finest quality, which all command the highest market prices. Dunbar red-soil potatoes are celebrated in the London market, and bring one or two pounds per ton above ordinary quality. They are extensively grown on almost every farm in the district. Dunbar barley produces the finest quality of malt, wheat of flour, and oats of meal. Sheep and cattle fed on Dunbar roots and grass are celebrated far and near. During the time of the long war, the rent of the best land was known to be eight pounds the Scotch acre, and the average from £5 to £6. The late Rev.

Mr Jeffrey, minister of Dunbar, for many years at the dinner in the manse, on the Monday after the Sacrament, which was always on the second Sunday of June, generally produced some ears of wheat fully shot out, a proof of the earliness of the climate. The farms of Eastbarns, Eweford, South Belton, Oxwellmains, Newtonlees, Barneyhill, Westbarns, may be singled out as superlatively good ones. The farmers are the most skilful and enterprising, perhaps, to be met with in Scotland. Some of the old farmers names, which may be interesting to readers at the present day, may be here noted. Tynefield was long the property of the old family of Hunter, and was farmed by them. At Tynefield was first raised the superior kind of white wheat which was called Hunters, which was selected and reared by Mr William Hunter, who leased the farm of Knowes. It was almost universally grown in East Lothian and other counties for a long period of years, and yet keeps its popularity as one of the best for quality and produce. South Belton was long occupied by Mr William Turnbull, afterwards by Mr Thomas Ronaldson; North Belton by Mr George Begbie; Howmuir by Mr William Kerr; Eweford long ago by Mr James Waterson, afterwards by Mr Robert Waugh and his son John; Kirklandhill by Mr Matthew Stobie, afterwards by Mr Hood and Mr Adam Nelson; Tynefield by Mr David Park. Halhill, part of Lochend estate, was long tenanted by

the old family of Sawers, and it was on this farm that Dr Hamilton grew the Ruta-Baga to produce seed, which he sent in 1784 to agriculturists in various parts of the island—thus being the means of disseminating its culture over a wide area in a short time. Newtonlees was tenanted by Mr Hume, afterwards by Mr Andrew Meikle Nelson; Oxwellmains by Mr John Rennie; Eastbarns by Mr Wilson, afterwards by Mr James Murray; Little Pinkerton by Mr John Lee; Easter Meikle Pinkerton by Mr John Fraser and Mr George Purves; Meikle Pinkerton by Mr Archibald Miller, afterwards by Mr Robert Anderson. These were all famous agriculturists in their day. The chief proprietors in Dunbar parish at present are the Duke of Roxburghe, Sir George Warrender, Bart., of Lochend; Mr Alexander Mitchell Innes, of Eastbarns; Mr James George Baird Hay, of Belton; the Earl of Haddington; Mrs Nisbet Hamilton Ogilvy, of Biel; Mr William Rennie, of Winterfield; Mr Annandale, of Westbarns; and Sir James Miller, Bart., of Barneyhill.

The town and Parish of Dunbar have in their day been the scene of military and naval fighting events and displays, which kept the town and country in terror from the date of the building of the Castle down to the time of the threatened invasion by Bonaparte—a period of one thousand years at least. The Castle rendered Dunbar the theatre of many warlike exploits and deadly strife. In 1296 the whole

military force of Scotland was collected for the relief of the Castle, and was defeated in a battle by Earl Warren, the English commander. The Picts, Scots, and English have all in their time left their marks behind them. The battle of Doon Hill or Dunbar, betwixt Cromwell and General Leslie, in 1650, has been well written about, and the history of it is well known. Dunbar saw the "pomp and circumstance" of war, when Sir John Cope arrived with his troops and transports on the 15th September, 1745, and were landed on the 17th, and marched on to meet Prince Charlie at Tranent, where he suffered disastrous defeat on the 21st. Prince Charlie laid the town of Dunbar under contribution, according to the following order to the Provost of Dunbar :—"Sir,—You are hereby ordered on receipt of this to repair to the secretary's office in the Palace at Holyrood House, there to have the contribution to be paid by your town of Dunbar for His Highness's use ascertained; which shall be done according and in proportion to the duties of excise arising out of the said town of Dunbar. For the repayment of which contribution the said duty will be assigned. This you are ordered upon pain of rebellion forthwith to obey. By this His Highness' command, James Murray, Holyrood House, 26th September 1745."

In 1779 a noted marine adventurer, called John Paul Jones, appeared off Dunbar, with five ships, with the intention of burning Dunbar. Resistance was offered by the authorities, and

Jones sheared off and sailed up the Firth, but a violent south-west wind arising (aided as was said by the Godly prayers of the Reverend Mr Shirra, minister of Kirkcaldy), drove him back, and he left the coast on 22nd May 1781. Captain Fall, another noted adventurer, with a French privateer, attempted to carry away a vessel from Dunbar harbour, and fired several shots into the town, which did some damage. He was vigorously opposed by well-directed shots, and after remaining some hours he sailed off. He carried away all the sheep on the Isle of May. It was necessary to put the burgh into a state of defence against the visits of privateers. The battery, which still remains, was erected on the Lammer Island, and mounted with sixteen guns. At the era of the French Revolution, when war broke out betwixt France and Britain in 1793, a corps of volunteers was raised by Major George Hay. They were called the Dunbar Defensive Company. The command latterly devolved on Mr Christopher Middlemas, as the next senior officer.

In 1803 when Bonaparte's invasion was expected the whole country was roused to a state of defence. Aberlady Bay was expected to be the place of landing. Huts, capable of containing 12,000 infantry and 300 artillery, were erected in a short time on the Heughheads, a high ground overlooking the sea on the north side of Knock-in-Hair. Cavalry barracks were placed in the park betwixt the Gallow Green and Belhaven. The regiments

which first occupied the barracks were the Lanarkshire, Perthshire, Fife, and Galloway Militia, and the Haddington, Dunbar, and North Berwick Volunteers. The force was commanded by General Sir George Don, a veteran officer, who had seen a deal of hard service in Egypt, &c., under Sir Ralph Abercromby. Happily Bonaparte did not come. The erection of the barracks at Haddington and Dunbar was the golden age of East Lothian. Dunbar was specially benefited. A great extra population was brought into the burgh, and a deal of money was set into circulation. The cattle and victual consumed by the troops was the means of farmers, traders, and merchants attaining to moderate wealth, and no wonder they sang with zest,

> Bonaparte's a freend o' mine
> I sell my wheat at ninety-nine.

When the peace came in 1814, the barracks at Dunbar and Haddington were taken down, having stood for eleven years.

It appears that the old Collegiate Church of Dunbar was named after its founder, St Baes, hence the following traditional lines—

> St Abb's upon the Nab,
> St Helen's upon the Lea,
> St Baes upon Dunbar Sands,
> Stands nearest to the sea.

According to this rhyme three female saints strove who would build a church nearest the sea. St Abb's was nearest St Abb's Head;

St Helen's, which is still in existence—an interesting ruin on a piece of lealand near Old Cambus ; St Baes on Dunbar Sands, which was nearest the sea. It is obvious that the situation of the churches suggested the popular belief.

According to the ancient *Taxatio* (1176) "Dunbar cum capella de Whytingeham" was assessed at 180 merkes. In 1342 it was founded as a Collegiate Church by Patrick, Earl of March, being the first establishment of this kind in Scotland. For the support of the Dean, Archpriest, and 18 Canons it was richly endowed, there being assigned the revenues of the Church of Dunbar, and the incomes of the Chapels of Whittingham, Spott, Stenton, Penshiel, Heatherwick, Pinkerton, and others.

Miller in his volume of "St Baldred of the Bass," has immortalised the old Collegiate Church in verses, containing thirteen pages, in which he pourtrays all its history from 1176 up to 1819, when it was demolished, being inconvenient and unsuited for a modern congregation. A neat and tasteful woodcut of the old church is prefixed—a relic of olden times—to the verses. A print of the very elegant present church is in Miller's "History of Dunbar." It is built at the southern end of the High Street, on the site of the old kirk, and is in the modern Gothic style of architecture, very commodious, and having a very handsome square tower, with corner pinnacles. Built of a dark red sandstone, and possessing a prominent site, this handsome church is a landmark for a great distance round

Dunbar. Within the church is a superb monument, behind the pulpit, of white marble, erected to the memory of Sir George Home, afterwards Earl of Dunbar, who was in great favour with James the Sixth. He held the offices of High Treasurer of Scotland and Chancellor of the Exchequer of England. He was an active promoter of Episcopacy in Scotland, under that monarch. In front of the memorial is a complete life-sized figure of the Earl, clothed in armour, and robed. Above the statue, a slab of black marble contains the following inscription, in golden letters :—

Here lyeth the body of the
REIGHT HOBLE. GEORGE, EARL OF DUNBAR,
Baron Howme of Barwick, Lord Heigh Tressr of Scotland, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, and one of His Matte Most Noble Privie Counsell, who departed this life, the XXIX day of January, MDCXI.

Two knights in armour stand on each side as supporters. The monument is twelve feet broad at the base, and twenty-six feet in height. Above the pedestal, the Earl of Dunbar is represented kneeling on a cushion in the attitude of prayer, with a Bible open before him. The sculpture of this monument, Mr Robert Chambers observes, is unequalled in Scotland. It is one of the lions of Dunbar.

The parish of Dunbar has had several eminent divines as ministers in its day. The Rev. Andrew Simpson was the first minister of Dunbar after the Reformation. He was

inducted in 1564, when he sustained the double office of master of the Grammar School and minister of the parish—a common practice in those days. The Rev. Alexander Home, of Houndwood, succeeded Mr Simpson in 1582, and died in 1623. Mr Manderson was admitted in 1604, and died in 1635. Mr Andrew Stevenson succeeded Mr Maxwell. He was for thirty years a famous Professor of Philology and Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh, and thereafter for twenty-five years a faithful minister of Dunbar. The Rev. Andrew Wood was minister of 1665, and was created Bishop of the Isles in 1678. He received a dispensation from the King to hold the benefice of Dunbar. He died in 1695.

Mr James Craig was admitted in 1718. Mr George Logan came after him. Mr Alexander Pyott, whose ordination was unpopular, was admitted in 1733. Mr George Bruce was ordained in 1766, and died in 1794. In 1795 the Rev. Dr Patrick Carfrae was translated from the Parish of Morham to Dunbar ; he was perhaps the most eloquent and accomplished preacher in his day. He read his sermons, which at that time was not popular, and got the name of "Paper Pate." He was an East Lothian man, born and bred. He died at his estate of Bowerhouses in March 1822. His son, General Carfrae, an East Indian officer of eminent renown, succeeded to the estate of Bowerhouses. The Rev. John Jaffray, who was Dr Carfrae's assistant, was presented to the

Church of Dunbar by the Duke of Roxburghe, the patron, in 1821. He had a long incumbency of thirty-seven years, having died in 1858, and was succeeded by the present incumbent, the Rev. Robert Buchanan, in 1859. Dunbar seems to have been always well off for churches, there being at present no fewer than six of different denominations, and one at Belhaven, erected in 1839, and of which the Rev. William Sorley was the first minister. The Wesleyan Church is perhaps the oldest one of the body which was planted in Scotland, the meeting-house having been built in 1714. The celebrated John Wesley preached several times in it when he was itinerating in Scotland. There was an Anti-Burgher or Old-Light Meeting-house in Eastbarns at one time, but it was transferred to Dunbar in 1820. The Rev. Mr Bayne was long minister of it. The Free Church was opened in 1850, the congregation having assembled after the Disruption of 1843 in Belhaven Church. The Rev. James Dodds, A.M., was the first minister. The United Presbyterians are a strong body in Dunbar. An Episcopal Chapel and a Roman Catholic one have been recently erected.

The Harbour and Port of Dunbar was originally situated at Belhaven. In the middle of the 12th century the Earl of Dunbar granted to the Monks of May "a full toft near his port of Bele." This toft was situated near Dunbar where the monks built a house and formed a harbour, no doubt a small affair, and of small

commercial importance. At the time of the revolution the shipping consisted of only two small barques and sixteen herring boats. The old harbour is difficult of access, the entrance being narrow, and numerous dangerous rocks abound, which have been the cause of many a melancholy shipwreck and loss of life.

From time to time large excavations of rock have been made, and sea walls and piers, which were damaged by heavy and tempestuous seas, repaired. Cromwell, during his protectorate, granted £300 to build the East Pier. In 1718 and 1738 a duty of a penny on every pint of ale drunk in the town enabled improvements to be made on the harbour and other public institutions. In 1785 the Convention of Royal Burghs voted £600 to build a new pier on the west side. The Fishery Board, anxious to encourage the fishing industry of Dunbar, was the means of getting the New or Victoria Harbour formed, and contributed a deal of money for the purpose. The Burgh contributed £4500, the cost of the whole work being, with subsequent additions, over £25,000. The foundation stone was laid on 27th September, 1842, by the Right Honourable the Earl of Dalhousie, Provincial Grand Master of the different Masonic Lodges of East Lothian and Berwickshire, amid great rejoicings.

The entrance to the Victoria Harbour is narrow and close under the now small ruins of Dunbar Castle, which yet tower proudly above it, a relic of former days. The late Mr W. H.

Ritchie, banker, and Bailie Barclay, with others, took a great amount of trouble in obtaining grants of money from Government with the view of making the Victoria Harbour a port of refuge for vessels in stormy weather. A customhouse was established at Dunbar as far back as 1710. Its jurisdiction extended from near Berwick to Gullane Point. In 1798 Charles Lorimer was collector, and continued so until 1804. George Campbell was comptroller. It was latterly incorporated with Leith. The Coastguard service succeeded it in 1821. Its jurisdiction extends from Whitekirk to Redheugh.

For many years a considerable amount of shipping belonged to the Port of Dunbar. In 1752 the East Lothian and Merse Whale Fishing Company was established at Dunbar, and consisted of the principal landed gentlemen and merchants in the district. At one time the Company had engaged in the trade five ships of 1532 tons burthen, which employed 238 hands. While the Company was in a flourishing condition, the rigging out and furnishing of these vessels created a considerable bustle about the place. Latterly want of success in catching whales and losses of ships broke up the Company. No dividend was paid after 1785, and the Company was dissolved in 1804 with a load of debt on its head. It lasted for fifty-two years. The trade was a profitable one in some seasons, when the ships came home bumperful of blubber and whalebone. The whale's jaws,

which are still to be seen on the top of North Berwick Law, were got from one of the Dunbar whalers. It may be interesting now to note that a policy of insurance over the "East Lothian," one of the Dunbar whale ships, dated 31st January 1788, from Dunbar to Davis Straits, is still in existence, and is in the possession of Mr James Lyle, wine merchant, Nicolson Street, Edinburgh, in capital preservation. Sum insured, £1445. The policy is insured by a number of underwriters, one of them being William Fettes, who left funds to build and endow the Fettes College of Edinburgh. In 1836, seventeen vessels were registered from the Port of Dunbar, of the tonnage of 1021 tons; in 1843, seventeen, 1177. In 1852 the number was reduced to six of 338 tons, no doubt owing to the North British Railway Company monopolising the greater part of the carrying traffic. The vessels were mostly coasters, but some larger ones were employed in the foreign trade. "The Liberty," Captain Lawson, a tight smack of 44 tons only, was for many years the weekly trader from Dunbar to Leith. Now it is believed that not one vessel belongs to the Port of Dunbar.

A family of the name of Fall, one of whom had been a Bailie of Dunbar since 1670, established themselves as merchants at the beginning of 1700, and became the most extensive traders at that time in Scotland. They were long in succession the Chief Magis-

trates of Dunbar. They at first spelt their names the same as the gypsy patronymic; and to perpetuate their descent from the family of Faa, the late Mrs Fall, of Dunbar, whose husband was provost of the town, caused the whole family, with their asses and other paraphernalia, as they took their departure from Yetholm, to be represented on tapestry. When Burns visited Dunbar, riding into "this neat little town like the devil," he dined with Provost Fall, whom he styles "an eminent merchant."

In 1734 party factions ruled very strong in Scotland. Politicians were divided into two parties. Those who favoured the ministry of the day were styled the "Court Party," while the other, who had the support of the community, were called the "Country Party," or "Congress," or, in plain terms, "Jacobites;" for the smothered hopes of the Stuart family were not yet extinguished.

A contested election for the Haddington District of Burghs took place in 1734. The rival candidates were Sir James Dalrymple of Hailes, and Captain Fall, of Dunbar. As each had their partisans almost equally divided in the Town Councils of the five burghs, it led to the most virulent contention. Jedburgh was the returning burgh. Captain Fall was the successful candidate. Parliamentary proceeding had to be gone through before the election was settled. No doubt a deal of bribery and undue influence was used on both sides. The following songs copied from the recitation of an

old member of the Town Council of Haddington, would, no doubt, be accounted a satirical flash in its day, and may be interesting to Dunbar and Haddington folk, as showing the spirit of the times on the Congress :—

Katie Makie's lying sick,
And wat ye what will mend her
Fifty guineas in a purse,
That Captain Fa' has sent her.
His love to her love,
Locked in a coffer ;
My service to the bonnie lass,
Katie Makie's dochter.

Chorus—

O fie upon ye Congress,
O fie upon ye fie!
Had Tyne been made o' claret,
Ye wad ha'e drank it dry.

The wabsters went unto Dunbar
To sell their claith at venture,
But 'twas nae for to sell their claith,
But to see their Paliamenter.
The Captain made them welcome guests,
Invited them to dine,
And after dinner did not spare
To treat them well with wine.

Here's your health, my Charlie, lad,
Take aff the other bottle ;
Drink aff your glass right heartily,
'Twill gar you drive the shuttle.
But Charlie raise to drink his health,
But louted doun sae low,
He brak his nose upon the floor,
And brak the glass also.

There's wabsters, and there's can'lemakers,
And tailors wi' bow'd legs ;
There's dirt drivers, and cabbage eaters,
And Sandy Bower that begs.
O, Simon Sawers got carts and horse,
And Laurie he got looms,
And Bairdy he got leather gude,
A' for to mend their shoon.

The Falls continued as merchants in Dunbar until the end of the last century, and will be long remembered in tradition for their enterprise and public spirit. Dunbar House was built by Captain Fall, in 1737. One of his daughters, named Janet, a very superior woman, was married to Sir John Anstruther, of Anstruther, in Fifeshire, in 1750. She seems to have had considerable influence over him, and in connection with this it is recorded that her husband was the author of a work on drill husbandry, published in 1796, which is understood to have been useful at the time of its publication, but is chiefly remembered from a *bon mot* relating to it. On its appearance, one of Sir John's friends jocularly remarked that no one could be better qualified to write on the subject, as there was not a better drilled husband in the County of Fife! On account of reverses in trade the family of Falls had to sell the house and grounds in 1788 to the Earl of Lauderdale. The Falls were succeeded in business by the Hays, who carried on an extensive trade for years. The late Mr Christopher Middlemas came to the Hays a young man as a

clerk, and eventually succeeded them in their business. In 1788 a branch of the British Linen Company's Bank was established in Dunbar, under the charge of Hay & Co. In 1808 Mr Middlemas was appointed agent. After him, in 1814, came Mr Thomas Nimmo. Mr Kelly succeeded Mr Nimmo, in whose family the agency yet remains.

The East Lothian Bank was formed in 1810. A number of the then wealthy farmers and merchants of the district were shareholders. It had a branch at Haddington, under the charge of Mr George Banks. In 1822 it proved a ruinous concern, as Borthwick, the manager, absconded with funds to a large amount. Its downfall was a severe blow to East Lothian. Many of the shareholders suffered very largely. It was understood that Borthwick went to Koningsburg in Prussia. Efforts were made to get hold of him and bring him to this country for punishment, but they were not successful. The following verses, entitled "Touch of the Times," were written at Dunbar when Borthwick absconded :—

A sad confusion has happened here,
By William Borthwick, our cashier ;
He's run away with a' our gear—
A roguish turn,
Which many ane, I am apt to fear,
Have cause to mourn.

First, Mr Goudie he maun thole
To sit a while in yon dark hole

With no a window, but a bole
With iron grate ;
Nae doubt he'll think it e'en right droll
In sic a state.

Next, monie a farmer, far and near
Who had lodged in her their pennie dear,
Which they had gathered thro' the year,
With the intent,
When terms came, their lairds to clear,
And pay their rent.

There's monie ane will suffer loss,
But what it may be in the gross,
To state it fair, I am at a loss,
Till the conclusion ;
I fear they may draw a black cross
Through eighty thousand.

But yet, I think some are to blame
To let Will Borthwick play such game ;
Sure they some better care should ta'en
To search things out,
Which would have saved them meikle pain
You need not doubt.

But now he's fled and left them a',
It's said he's off to America ;
If he got there the feint a flaw
He'll care for ane,
He'll be fu' safe, by Yankee law,
In his new hame.

The importance of the herring fishing in July and August to Dunbar has from a very remote date been well known. The Dutch first led the way to make the Dunbar herring-fishing famous. In good drave seasons over 300 fishing boats have been known to have congre-

gated together. During late years the fishery has fallen much off, and the trade has now become very small in comparison to what it was in former times.

In 1656 a communication sent to Cromwell gave the following account of the Dunbar herring fishing:—"The town of Dunbar is a fisher town, famous for the herring fishing, which are caught thereabout and brought thither, and afterwards cured and barrelled up, either for merchandise or sale to the country people, who come thither, far and near, at the season, which is from about the middle of August to the latter end of September;" and in 1661, John Ray observes in his Itinerary—"There is a great confluence of people at Dunbar to the herring fishery, sometimes to the number of 20,000 persons, but we did not see how so small a town could contain, indeed give shelter to, such a multitude." In 1819 it was computed there were congregated about 280 boats, and in them nearly 2000 men. It was estimated there were 35,000 barrels cured. In 1855 there were 4303 tons sent by railway, of the value of £51,630. The herring fishing used to be the marine harvest of Dunbar. History records that in the year 1577 a fearful calamity overtook the fishing fleet of a thousand boats.

Millar, in his volume of St Baldred of the Bass, founds on the "Lost Drave of Dunbar," a poem of considerable length, and narrates in the preface to it the following account of it:—"Mr Andrew Simpson, minister of Dunbar, of

good memory, who, going to the church, saw a thousand boats setting their nets on the Sabbath. He weeped, and feared that God would not suffer such contempt. It being a most calm day as ever was seen at that season. At midnight, when they went forth to draw their nets, the wind arose so fearfully, that it drowned eight score and ten boats, so that there was reckoned in the coast side fourteen score of widows. It appears that at this period Dunbar was the station for the Dutch as well as for the Scotch fishery."

The rock-girt coast of Dunbar has been the locality of many melancholy shipwrecks. During a strong north-eastern gale, with thick weather, ships get embedded on the rocks, and are driven to pieces. In 1746, the Fox, man-of-war, Captain Beaver, was cast away near Tyne Sands, and all on board perished. A deal of Government stores were on board, which were all buried in the sands and lost.

In December 1810, the Pallas and Nymph, Government frigates of 32 and 36 guns, came on shore, the Nymph close below Skateraw, the Pallas to the east of Broxmouth Park. They were returning from a cruise in the North Sea, and in a pitchy dark night mistook the lights of some limekilns for the lights of the May Island and the Bell Rock. They were both totally wrecked. Eleven seamen were drowned. The Dunbar life-boat rendered efficient service under the direction of Mr Laing, shipbuilder, and saved almost all the

crews. Millar, in his history of Dunbar, narrates many cases of distressing shipwrecks of ships and boats, and loss of life. Almost every year sea casualties occur.

Betwixt Belhaven and Dunbar a famous engineering work was long carried on by Mr John Sked. His steam engines were well-known far and wide as of the best workmanship. His property was sold to the late Colonel Purves, an old Dunbar man, who named it Eden Holm.

The principal villages in the parish of Dunbar are Belhaven, West and Eastbarns, and Broxburn. Belhaven is within the Royalty of Dunbar. It was formerly the Port of Dunbar. The small river of Biel flows into the beautiful Bay of Belhaven.

It confers the title of a Scotch baron, along with Stenton, on the old family of Hamilton, having been created in 1647, under the name of Belhaven and Stenton. It is a very pretty, healthy, and pleasant village. Belhaven Sands are well known as the locality where the Yeomanry Cavalry of East and Midlothian and Berwickshire are yearly drilled and reviewed. Belhaven Brewery was long carried on by Mr Johnston Cuming and Mr Dudgeon. Mr Alexander Hunter now carries it on to a large extent. Belhaven ales have been long well known as famous. A factory for making cotton and flax goods was established in 1815, which gave employment to from 400 to 500 hands, but the disastrous effects of the failure

of the East Lothian Bank knocked it up in 1841.

The severe storms and high tides of September 1891 laid bare a series of tombs on the cliff near the Artillery Volunteer Ranges at Belhaven. The graves had been dug to a uniform depth until the shell sand was reached, and the cists formed as narrow as a coffin but of considerable length, from slabs of the adjacent freestone rock, which splits easily. The stones were in the rudest condition, without any artistic dressing—memorials of a barbarous people.

The fine property of Winterfield, belonging to Mr Wm. R. Rennie, is on the east side of Belhaven. Summerfield, now the property of Mr Alexander Scott, is opposite Winterfield.

Westbarns is on the west side of Belhaven and is an extensive village; large corn and flour mills are there which belong to the burgh of Dunbar. These were long conducted by Archibald Lawson, who at one time tenanted the mill at Under Bolton. Important thirlages belong to the mills. A large distillery, long worked by the old firm of Andrew Taylor & Company, was erected in 1806. It continued to be largely worked up to 1830 or thereabouts. After being some years idle it was purchased by the late Mr Andrew M. Nelson, who converted it into a brewery. It was latterly carried on by Mr Alexander Lindsay and Mr W. Steele. The late Bailie David France reclaimed from the sea a good portion of Belhaven

Sands at Seafield, and established a brick and tile work, which he left to Mr William Brodie in 1850, who carried on an extensive trade in bricks, drain and roofing tiles for many years. The clay below the sand is of first rate quality. The work is now silent. Mr Brodie built a very unique mansion house at Westbarns which he named "Battle Blent." He was a man of great intelligence, scientific attainments, indomitable perseverance, and public spirit. He made his manufactory one of the largest of the kind in the country. The quality of his bricks and tiles, owing to the use of superior machinery, was first-class. He was an eloquent lecturer on the abstruse science of biology, to which he devoted much study and attention. He was the means of getting a valuable barometer erected at Dunbar Harbour for the benefit of fishermen and seafaring folk, to which he contributed over forty pounds. A large agricultural implement manufactory has been long established at Westbarns. It was long carried on by the late Mr Thomas Sherriff, and latterly by his successors.

Mr Annandale, paper manufacturer at Polton, having bought the estate of Westbarns, erected an extensive paper mill on the Biel water on the west side of Westbarns, which employed a number of workers. The fine writing and printing papers made at Mr Annandale's mills were well-known as very superior in the paper markets. The mill was

destroyed by fire in April 1892.* There was a considerable business done for a long period at Beltonford Inn, which was situated at the junction of the cross road from Broxburn, past Eweford, &c., to the high London Road. It was convenient for traffic by carts and carriages from the east part of the county, and especially by Coldingham, Eyemouth, and Berwick fish carts, which thus saved the extra travelling through Dunbar. The inn was a most convenient one for travellers resting and putting up at. There was also a respectable road-side hostelry at Gateside, long kept by Thomas Galbraith, a well-known man in his day. The great posting high road from Edinburgh to London traversed the parish from Gateside on the west to Dryburnford on the east. It was always kept in first-rate order and was a pleasant road to travel on. The North British Railway Company now monopolizes the great proportion of the traffic, which used to pass along it, and almost annihilated the old roadside houses of entertainment.

The village of Eastbarns is now much smaller than it was long ago, being almost confined to the houses of agricultural servants and the farmhouse steading, and offices and schoolhouse which have few equals in the county.

Limestone was burnt at Eastbarns to a large extent thirty to forty years ago, and long before.

* It is still in ruins, May, 1894.

The rock becoming exhausted, the trade was given up. The village of Broxburn, situated at the junction of the cross road from Beltonford to the great high road to London, is now much smaller than it used to be, but still contains a number of neat pleasant cottages. At one time Broxburn Inn, long occupied by Mr Bowhill, and afterwards by Mrs Sanderson, was a well-frequented house by travellers, but it has now been converted into a private dwelling-house. Bransmill, on the Spott Burn, was long carried on in manufacturing oatmeal, country grists, &c., but it is now given up. It was long occupied by Mr George Bowhill, a well-known man in his day about Dunbar, &c. The mill and house are situated in a very pretty, sequestered spot. The burgh of Dunbar owned for a long period a considerable tract of land in Lammermoor, called Dunbar Outer Common, in the Parishes of Spott, Innerwick, Whittinghame, and Stenton. It was three to four miles long, and two and a half miles broad. The Marches were perambulated yearly by the Magistrates, Council, and Burgesses, which occasioned much pleasure and merriment to the company of lieges, &c. It was sold in 1857 to Mrs Hamilton Nisbet Ferguson, of Biel, Mr Balfour, of Whittinghame, &c., who added their portions to their estates. Adjoining the burgh there were about fifty acres of land, called the Inner Common, where the burgesses had the privilege of pasturing cows and horses. It was customary to perambulate the Inner Common

on the King's Birthday. It was sold in 1852 to defray debts incurred by building the Victoria Harbour.

Richard Gall, a poet of considerable merit, and the son of a notary in Dunbar, was born at Linkhouse in this parish in December 1776. He received a meagre education at Haddington, and when he reached the age of eleven was apprenticed as a house-carpenter and builder, which he soon afterwards relinquished. He chose the trade of a printer, and was apprenticed to Mr David Ramsay, proprietor of the *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, with whom he stayed during the remainder of his short life. He enjoyed the friendship of Burns, Hector Macneill, Thomas Campbell, and Alexander Murray, afterwards Professor of Oriental Languages in the University of Edinburgh.

Only a few of his songs were published during his lifetime, but they soon established themselves as favourite Scottish songs. "My only Jo and Dearie, O'," for pleasing fancy, sweetness, ease, and a beautiful picture of early attachment is not unworthy of Tannahill. His "Farewell to Ayrshire," in consequence of its locality, has been often printed as the composition of Burns. He had anticipated bringing out several larger poems, when he was prematurely cut off by abscess in the breast 10th May 1801, in the 25th year of his age. A selection of his poem, with a life of the author, was published by Oliver & Boyd in 1819.

To George Miller, publisher and merchant,

Dunbar, is due the merit of establishing the first printing press in East Lothian in 1795. He began publishing with a series of cheap tracts, which superseded the rubbish of the hawkers' baskets, such as "Lothian Tam," "John Cheap," "Wise Willie," "The Laird of Coul's Ghost," &c. In 1802 and 1803 he published no less than twenty small books very diversified in subjects and matter. The first volumes he published were Defoe's "Robinson Crusoe" and "Religious Courtship." He removed his press to Haddington in 1804, under the charge of his son John, and afterwards of James, the well-known author of the "Lamp of Lothian," "St Baldred of the Bass," &c. In 1813-14 a series of cheap publications were issued from the Haddington Press, the principal of which was the *Cheap Magazine*, which Messrs Chambers, in the *Gazetteer of Scotland*, considered as an undertaking in advance of the age. Of the *Cheap Magazine*, from first to last, over 15,000 copies were printed, and the price was fourpence a number. It contained short, useful articles on moral economy, fitted to improve the minds of both old and young. It is now a scarce book. There is no doubt that Messrs Chambers took the idea from George Miller's *Cheap Magazine* to start the now well-known *Chambers's Journal* and *Information for the People.* Miller also started the *Monthly Monitor* in six-penny numbers, which had, while it lasted, a large circulation. Most of the articles were

written by himself. In 1826, he published "Popular Philosophy: or, the Book of Nature Laid Open," in two volumes; now also a scarce book. In 1813, "The Evening of Life: or, Retrospections of a Sexagenarian." In 1833, "Latter Struggles in the Journey of Life," a volume of over 400 pages; a miscellaneous mass of interesting, as well as uninteresting occurrences. George Miller was thus a remarkable man in his day.

James Miller, poet and historian, was born in Dunbar. He was the oldest son of George Miller. He commenced business in Haddington somewhere about 1821. Inheriting the literary talents of his father to a large extent, and perhaps to a greater degree, he was not long in developing his historical and antiquarian knowledge and in publishing from the East Lothian press many volumes and pamphlets. About 1824 he commenced the annual Haddingtonshire Register, which is still continued by Neill and Son's successor. In it he gave a series of remarkable events and memoranda of East Lothian and extracts from the earliest Council Records of Haddington dating from 1314 downwards. In 1825 he published in one volume "St Baldred of the Bass," a Pictish legend, "The Siege of Berwick," a tragedy, with other poems founded on the local traditions of East Lothian and Berwickshire. St Baldred was well received by a discerning public, who acknowledged Miller to be a poet of no mean order. The book is now scarce. The "History

of Dunbar" followed next. It contains a deal of the old interesting history of the burgh. A new edition of it was published by James Downie, bookseller, Dunbar, in 1859. "The Lamp of Lothian or History of Haddington," in connection with the public affairs of East Lothian and Scotland from the earliest record to the present period, was printed and published by James Allan, Haddington, in 1844. Miller must have spent much time, study, and research in compiling it. It is the chief and greatest triumph of his literary work, and perhaps no other local man could have produced such a book. His old friend, Dr David Laing, praised it much. It is curious to note that a quantity of sheets remained in the publisher's hands and were sold as waste paper. Now it is a very scarce book, and, at auction sales, copies have been sold at £2 to £5 each. A new edition, revised and brought down to the present time, seems to be a task fitted for some capable hand. Miller had prepared and intended to have published a history of the Burgh of North Berwick, but it never saw the light of day and the MS is now lost. He latterly fell a victim to intemperate habits. Old friends who recognised him in former days as a man of talents and genius did not altogether forsake him, and endeavoured to administer to his comfort in his old days as much as possible, but with little avail. The late good Thomas, Earl of Haddington, befriended him much, and obtained for him a yearly annuity, paid

quarterly from a society in London established for the relief of decayed authors. Miller used to call it his "sustenance money." Mr Matthew Buist, factor for the Tyninghame estate, had the management of his aliment. Miller paid him many a visit and gave him abuse when he did not get it very frequently. He was a brother of the Haddington St John's Kilwinning Masonic Lodge and was early installed as the Poet Laureate of the Lodge. He had a great dislike to doctors, as he blamed them for keeping back the publication of the "Siege of Berwick," he having been ordered to bed for some trivial illness, which made it irksome and tedious to write the manuscript for that work while lying in bed. Between Edinburgh and Berwick his was a familiar figure. He was quickly recognised as the "Lamp." It was understood that he died in the House of Refuge in Edinburgh. He deserved a better fate and end.

A number of old names connected with the town of Dunbar will still be recollected. James, the Eighth Earl of Lauderdale, was long a resident at Dunbar House, having bought it and the grounds from the family of the Falls in 1788. It is situated in the Castle Park, and has a handsome front looking north to the sea. The Earl was a well-known public man in his day, and took a deal of interest in national, and especially Scotch politics. In 1804 he published a learned and well-reasoned volume, viz., "An Inquiry into the Nature and Origin of Public

Wealth, and into the Means and Causes of its Increase." He dedicated it to the Prince of Wales, afterwards George the Fourth. It was printed by Archibald Constable & Co., of Edinburgh, and is now a scarce book. In 1806 he was sent to Paris by the Government of the day (Mr Fox was then Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs) as accredited minister to negotiate peace with Bounaparte, but he was ordered by him to leave France within three days, so no peace took place. He was hereditary Standard Bearer for Scotland, and a Privy Councillor. He was principal manager in the election of the sixteen representative peers for Scotland, and in old times the election of the members to the House of Commons for the Haddington District of Burghs was mostly in his hands. He died at Thirlestane Castle in 1839, aged 80, and was buried in the family vault in the Abbey Church of Haddington. The Earl, in his political views, was not consistent at all. He began his life as one of the friends of the people, who declared for democracy and republicanism. In after years he became an extreme high Tory. The following account of him is to be found in the "Reminiscences of a Scottish Gentleman," by Philo Scotus (Philip Barrington Ainslie), published in 1861, page 22:—"Among the most conspicuous and ardent supporters of citizenship and republicanism was a noble Lord of distinguished talent. Well do I remember, with several of my playmates, gazing with fear

and wonder at the citizen Earl, as he walked along George Street, dressed, or rather I should say, undressed, in a rough frockcoat made of the cloth denominated 'Rap Rascal.' His dark and sombre countenance, as we looked at him, caused our uproarious voices to drop into a whisper, and to exclaim *(sotto voce)*, 'Eh, what a fearsome looking man. They say he wants to chap aff the King's head.' He was leaning on the arm of the Honourable Harry Erskine, famed for his wit, his talents, and his Whiggish principles. The noble citizen Earl felt at the close of a long life the error of his former opinions, and gave a strenuous opposition to the Reform Bill of 1832."

Dunbar House and grounds, &c., were sold to Government, who converted it into barracks. The county artillery militia assemble here for a short period every season, and are drilled to fit them for active service when required.

The Middlemasses were an old family in Dunbar, dating as far back as 1724, when Thomas was created a burgess, having paid for the common affairs the "soume of twenty merks for fynance and arms." The late Mr Christopher Middlemass, of Underedge, was admitted a hereditary freeman and burgess on 15th October 1784, having paid the sum of four pounds sterling of "fynance," and ten merks for arms. He was first elected Provost in 1793, which office he filled for several years. He died 24th October, 1850, aged 89 years. Besides being an extensive and well-known

merchant and trader (including that of corn merchant, fish curer, and shipowner), he filled a number of offices in his day. He was agent for Lloyds—a very lucrative business when ships were wrecked on the coast—the Belgian, Spanish, and Dutch Consul, Barrack Master of the Government Barracks at Ayr, Major of the Dunbar Defensive Company of Volunteers in 1793, agent for some years at Dunbar for the British Linen Company Bank, a director of the ill-fated East Lothian Bank, &c. He built and lived in the fine large house at the harbour. William Barclay & Co., merchants in Dunbar and Newcastle, are now agents for Lloyds and for the Belgian Consulate.

Mr Simon Sawers of Newhouse, was long a leading man in Dunbar, and was frequently Provost of Dunbar. He long held a Government appointment in the Island of Ceylon. Charles Lorimer Sawers, merchant and fish-curer, was long a well-known man, much esteemed, and frequently a Bailie. They were of the family of the Sawers, farmers, at Hall-hill, on the Lochend estate. Mr John Brown was long accountant in the British Linen Company Bank. He went by the name of Cashier Brown. His son, John, was long a brewer in Dunbar, and several years a Bailie. He was succeeded in the brewery by Mr Alexander Dunlop. Mr Robert Cossar, long landlord of the George Inn Hotel, was much esteemed by all who knew him. The Mail and Union coaches changed horses at the George.

The existence of the George Hotel of Dunbar dates from an early period, as appears from an inscription on the lintel stone over the door of it, viz., "Aedificata, 1625; renovata, 1828." It was re-built by a late proprietor, Collector Lorimer. Mr W. H. Ritchie, solicitor, was long town-clerk, and agent for the Commercial Bank. Bailie David France, of Seafield, was long a baker in Dunbar. He was an eccentric character, and a most agreeable person in conversation. Mr John Kelly, merchant, was for many years agent for the British Linen Company, and was succeeded by his son, a late Provost. The Kirkwoods, wood merchants, were an old, respectable family in Dunbar. Few of them now survive. Thomas Mitchell, soap boiler, and proprietor of Rosebank, was a well-known man for long. He went by the name of "Soapie Mitchell." A Mr Junes carried on the Soap Works for some years after his death. Ruddiman France, writer, was Chamberlain and Procurator-Fiscal to the Burgh. In his office the Dunbar Chamberlain's books and other important documents took fire one night and were burned. A Parliamentary inquiry took place about them, which old Dunbar people may still remember, or may have heard of.

A few of Bailie France's sayings may be noticed. He used to say that he saw no reason why a machine could not be invented with wings like a bird's for a man to fly through the air. One of his friends said, "But, Bailie, how

would you stop the machine?" "The easiest thing in the world," the Bailie retorted; "Get an Act of Parliament." His dwelling-house was long at Westbarns, on the side of the Biel Water. The freestone doorstep of his house got so much worn through age that a circle was scooped out in the middle of it. A person said to him one day that he should get a new door-step of hard stone, so as not to wear. He replied that he was quite wrong, for a man's teeth were hard, which decayed and broke away, but his tongue, being soft, never wore. He farmed the arable part of his property of Seafield. He never would cut the thistles, which grew to a large size, among the corn crops. He said the thistles served the purpose as standard bearers, which kept the stalks of grain from being laid down.

Lockie & Aitchison were long the principal grocers in Dunbar. Their shop was in the High Street, where the Black Bull Inn is now. Lockie was a tall, stout, and well-known man. Mr John Brook's shop, another head grocer, was at the corner of Silver Street, now occupied by Mr Thomas Fraser. Mr William Gray's shop was also in the High Street. Peter Lawson, druggist, was a well-known residenter. He had a large practice in dispensing specifics for reducing swellings, curing rheumatisms, setting broken bones, drawing teeth, &c. Patients came to him from all parts of the country, and he was a successful curer in many cases. Mr Miller was an extensive grocer in

the High Street, Mr George Bayne also. Mr Andrew Denham and Bathgate Comb were extensive curriers. George Paterson was long a noted fishcurer at the foot of Silver Street. Mr John Wedderburn and Mr Andrew Bayne were the principal drapers in the town. John Cockburn was long a saddler in Dunbar, and had a wide acquaintance. His shop was a daily meeting place for old Dunbar folk, in which town, country, and public politics were discussed. The following original verses, written by L. D. in 1879, describe the kind of Dunbar characters who frequented John Cockburn's shop :—

John Cockburn's shop, yes, John Cockburn's shop,
We miss frae the High Street John Cockburn's shop,
Where the highest, the lowest, the wisest would stop,
They were a' welcomed into John Cockburn's shop.

John Cockburn's shop, it is sweet to recall,
Was the "houff" of musicians, the great and the small,
The banker, the baker, the miser, the fop,
All critics made welcome in Cockburn's shop.

A yeoman was John o' the richt sort o' stamp,
Aye ready tae serve them in quarters or camp
Wi' buckles, or bridles, wi' saddles, or soap,
They could rig themselves clean in John Cockburn's shop.

John Cockburn himself was a lang headed man,
Where a' our great farmers and business men ran,
In want o' guid harness, nane wi' him could cope,
They were a' weel supplied in John Cockburn's shop.

And a' our great worthies were sure to be there,
In summer, in winter, be it foul or be 't fair ;
* Matthew Watt, † Willie Howell, ‡ Willie Liddle would drop
In tae hear a' the news in John Cockburn's shop.

Our postmen and coachmen, when weather was bad,
And trains often late, while lang seats they had,
" Great questions," exciting a fear or a hope,
Were discussed, aye, and settled in Cockburn's shop.

Our Provost, and bailies, and councillors all,
Would each in their turn, give John Cockburn a call,
They a' got advice, and a word when to stop
Their committee meetings in Cockburn's shop.

And these were the men, aye, and that was the time,
And his shop was the place of wisdom sublime,
Where wit, fun, and humour, indeed, had full scope ;
Those were glorious meetings in Cockburn's shop.

But John was himself aye the tongue o' the trump,
When some of his cronies would blether or stump,
John minded his wark and showed them the rope,
The length they could gang in John Cockburn's shop.

Oh for the men and the days o' langsyne ;
They were gifted with wisdom and eloquence fine,
Now all things are changed and John left to grope,
A new home in Auld Reekie, a new saddler's shop.

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* Matthew Watt died over 86 years of age.

† William Howell died over 89 years of age.

‡ William Liddle was born 15th March, 1790, and died 12th November, 1892.

The family of Humes were long resident in Dunbar. They were at one time proprietors of the estate of Westbarns, which estate eventually passed into the possession of Robert Hume Middlemass, Esq., of Westbarns. Politics ran frequently very keen in the Burgh of Dunbar long ago, like other Scotch burghs. The old Tory party was strong and well kept up by the influence of the Earl of Lauderdale, Major Middlemass, Dr Aitchison, and others for many years. The Liberal party was represented by Provost Sawers and others. Many a severe faction fight took place. An old story in Captain Fall's time has been handed down, about an old farmer of the name of Scoughall, who was tenant of Broomhouse, who went by the name of "Baron" Scoughall. He seems to have been a keen money making person. He made a bargain with Mr Fall that he was to give him yearly a cartload of pea straw, for which he was to get a bottle of brandy, and get his horse stabled every time he came into Dunbar. The "Baron" was an arch wag, and went himself for the first year's reddendo with a four gallon bottle fixed in a wheelbarrow. Mr Fall saw he was taken in, but he humoured the "Baron," and continued to give him his yearly bottle of brandy as long as he lived. The "Baron" had some influence on the Dunbar political elections.

There was always a grain-stock market in Dunbar on Tuesday, which was formerly held on the street. It used to be, thirty to forty

years ago, and before that, of a considerable size, large lots of grain and bushels coming from the east part of the county, Lammermoors, and Berwickshire. Now it has very much dwindled away, and very little business is now done in it, although a neat commodious market place was built for it thirty to forty years ago. The high road from Edinburgh to London being through Dunbar, there was in "days of yore" a large business done in posting and coaching business. The George and New Inn were the principal posting houses. The North British Railway Company has completely knocked up this business.

A number of new handsome houses have, within these few years, been erected at Dunbar, especially on the Kirkhill ground on the east, by the enterprise of Mr Bowe and others, and betwixt Dunbar and Belhaven on the west.

Dunbar is progressing yearly in estimation as a summer resort for bathing and healthy recreation, for which, on account of its beautiful surrounding of sea and land, hill and dale, it is eminently suitable. A golf course on Broxmouth Links has, within these two or three years, been formed and laid out, with a handsome lodge. It extends nearly 5000 yards in length, and must prove attractive to visitors, and exhilarating to lovers of the Royal game of golf.

A very nice Esplanade, the gift of Mrs James Baird of Cambusdoon, daughter of Rear-Admiral Hay of Belton, was opened amid great

rejoicings on July 6th, 1893, on the occasion of the marriage of the Duke of York and the Princess May.

The principal mansion house in the Parish of Dunbar is Broxmouth, one of the seats of the Duke of Roxburghe. It is a fine place, with a deal of fine wood in the policies, and a pleasant residence; a large deer park is connected with it. Its early wooded aspect must have stood out in striking contrast with the greater part of the East Coast, for Sir William Brereton, whose travels were written in 1636, records:—"Here is my Lord Rockburne's house or castle, seated within six score of the main sea, where groweth and prospereth many kinds of wood; the highest thorns that I ever saw; this I admired, because I have observed all the sea-coasts whereby we passed, almost an hundred miles, and could not find any manner of wood prospering near the sea-coast." It is an ancient place, and the scene of much old Scotch history. In the park there is a small mound of earth, which is called Cromwell's Mound, and on which he stood when, looking through a glass, he beheld the Scotch army under Leslie descending from Doone Hill, and exclaimed, "The Lord hath delivered them into my hands." Near the door of Broxmouth House, which is comparatively modern, there is a rough tombstone, having the name of Sir William Douglas inscribed on it. He was one of the Douglases of Kirkness, in Kinross-shire, and the only individual among the many killed

at the Battle of Dunbar who has been honoured even with such a small memorial to mark a warrior's grave.

Belton House, the residence of Captain J. G. Baird Hay, is an interesting old place, having been an old fortified peel adapted in 1865 to modern requirements. Remains of the original structure may be observed on the eastern and northern ends, where the walls are six feet thick. An illuminated coat-of-arms of the Tweeddale family may be seen in a vaulted compartment on the east side, and on the west gable there is a lengthened and incomprehensible inscription in large capitals. The estate has been long in the possession of the Hays of Belton. It stands in a beautiful glen, embosomed among old and stately trees. The Biel stream gliding gently past is an object of much beauty.

Lochend House, the seat of Sir George Warrender, Bart., was an elegant, substantial building. It was burned down on 11th March, 1859, and has not been rebuilt. The fire took place at 11 o'clock A.M. A terrific gale of wind was blowing at the time. The fire was discovered by the shepherd, who, in passing the lea side of the house, saw flames issuing from the roof. Lady Warrender had only a few days previously given birth to a son and heir, and had to be removed from the burning flat, communication with which was cut off in less than half an hour. The fire was said to have been caused by a joist protruding into the

chimney. But for the gale there was a possibility of having saved the house.

Hedderwick Hill House stands on a gentle eminence, which is beautifully wooded, and commands fine views of the surrounding plain, the town of Dunbar, Belhaven Bay, and the extensive grounds of Tyninghame. It was long the residence of General Hardyman, and afterwards of Mr James Hamilton, of Ninewar. It is now the property of the Earl of Haddington.

The affairs of the Royal Burgh of Dunbar are managed by the Magistrates and Town Council. These consist of a Provost, three Bailies, Treasurer, and seven Councillors, assisted by a Town-Clerk, Chamberlain, and Procurator Fiscal. The Provost is *ex-officio* a member of the Justice of Peace Court, which is held at Haddington. The Magistrates hold a weekly court every Saturday. Like many other old Scotch Burghs, Dunbar was, before the passing of the Municipal Burgh Reform Act in 1833, a very exclusive burgh, and held under political influence. Its magistracy was in some degree much opposed, as rulers in power often are, to the wishes of the community. Unlike the Royal Burgh of Haddington which had, agreeable to the sett of the Burgh constituted by the Act of the old Scotch Parliament, nine incorporated trades which elected Deacons and a Convener to represent them in Council, Dunbar had none. The Haddington incorporated trades numbered at one time over 250, who all had an indirect

interest and voice, through their Deacons and Convener, in Parliamentary and Municipal Elections. Haddington was thus a more independent and freer burgh than Dunbar ever was. Mr James Brand, the present Provost, has now served the Burgh of Dunbar as Provost with much ability and good management for many years, and thus deserves the thanks of the community.

There were two fairs held at Dunbar on the Tuesdays before Whitsunday and Martinmas (old style), for hiring farm servants, &c. Long ago they were numerously attended, and all the usual wares, exposed in a country fair, sold. It was a great day for the Haddington and other shoemakers to sell their boots and shoes on stands in the street, and Neillans, the cooper of Garvald, to sell his cogs and bickers. The fairs, however, have now become quite extinct, and are matters of ancient history.

PARISH OF INNERWICK

THE name of the Parish of Innerwick, otherwise often called Ennerwick, is said to be compounded of two Saxon words, denoting an inner hamlet or more probably of the Celtic word, *Inner*, in combination with the German word, *Wic*—a description which corresponds to the actual locality of the village of Innerwick.

The parish is about twelve miles in length, and from two to five in breadth. It is bounded on the north, to the extent of two miles of coast, by the German Ocean; on the east by the Parish of Oldhamstocks; on the south by Cranshaws and Longformacus, in Berwickshire; and on the west and north by Spott and Dunbar. From the coast the land slopes gradually upwards into the middle of the Lammermoor Hills. The parish is thus composed of two distinct portions, the low land, which is extremely fertile, and the hill part, which is mostly in pastoral and grazing farms. The geological structure of the hill tract of the parish is composed of a coarse conglomerate or

plum-pudding stone, an off-shoot of the old, red sandstone formation, interspersed with masses of greywacke, traversed by projecting dykes or veins of trap. The masses are most numerous on the farms of Aikengall and Elmscleuch, where the appearances present themselves in curious and fantastic shapes, which gave rise to the old popular idea, that the "Fairies" once upon a time had their dwelling place there. These distorted masses are still known in the neighbourhood as "The Faries' Castles." The parish is hilly and has many interesting valleys, through which small burns flow. In these valleys the old red sandstone is the prevailing rock, with conglomerate and trap. The coast is rocky, but not characterised by the rugged ridges of rocks, which occur in the adjoining Parish of Dunbar or further east in the Parishes of Cockburnspath and Coldingham. Limestone rock is met with on the coast below Skateraw, where it was burned to a large extent long ago. A small harbour was erected there at one time by Mr Brodie, of Thorton Loch, and Mr Lee, of Skateraw, for the shipping of limestone to Devon Iron Works, and the importation of coals. The Rev. John Harvie, who wrote the description of the parish for the old statistical account in 1790, advocated then the making of a harbour of refuge here owing to the number of wrecks that occurred. The North British Railway traverses the whole breadth of the parish towards its northern extremity. In some places the cuttings are deep.

The Baronies of Thornton and Innerwick are very ancient places. David the First conferred them on Walter Stewart. His grant was confirmed by Malcolm the Fourth in 1157, and the superiority over Innerwick and Thornton continued in Stewart's family until the time of Charles the Second. In the time of David the Second they became, by marriage, the property of Sir Walter Hambleton, of that ilk, from whom sprung the Hamiltons of Innerwick, ancestors of the Earls of Haddington. In the course of several centuries the baronies changed proprietors many times. The greater part is now the property of Mrs Nisbet Hamilton-Ogilvy, of Biel. The other proprietors in the parish are Mr Hunter, of Thurston; Mr Balfour, of Whittinghame; the Marquis of Tweeddale; Sir George Grant Suttie, Bart., of Balgone; Sir Basil Hall, Bart., of Dunglass; and the late Mr Turnbull, of St Bathan's, heirs.

The lower part of the parish consists of a deep fertile red soil, reclining on gravel, and the old red sandstone. The fine farms of Skateraw, Crowhill, Innerwick, Thorton Loch, Branxton, Thurston, Westhall, &c., compare favourably with the rich fertile farms in Dunbar Parish, and can be classed as part of the "Youk of East Lothian." The valuable hill farms of Crichness, Harehead, Bushel Hill, Boonsley, &c., are well known. There seems to have been a great deal of wood grown in the parish long ago, as the names of old places still indicate. There

are Woodley, Woodyley, Wadalee, Weatherley, Braidwood, Woodhall, &c.; Monymut, so named from a quantity of hazel bushes growing there, which held a lot of nuts in their season. The late Mr Hunter, of Thurston, planted a large extent of wood on his estate. Thurston high wood consists of nearly 260 acres, and is a fine piece of scenery among the neighbouring hills.

Innerwick Castle, of which there are still considerable remains, was built in feudal times and was a baronial stronghold of the old Hamiltons of Innerwick. It stands on the banks of the Thornton Burn, and close to the small hamlet of Thornton. It is still an imposing structure. A view of it is given in "Grose's Antiquities of Scotland." A capital picture of it was painted by Mr Thomson, of Duddingston. The old castle of Thornton, a residence of one of the old Earls of Home, stood on the opposite banks of the glen. "Decay's effacing fingers" rendered it quite ruinous long ago, and the site of it is now obliterated. Both Innerwick and Thornton Castles have been the scenes of many a bloody encounter betwixt contending parties in days of yore. A little to the south of Innerwick Castle there was, forty to fifty years ago, the remains of a structure called Edinkeas Bridge, which was supposed to have been built by a Northumberland prince of the name of Edwin or Edward. In 1835 four large stones were

discovered, and an urn, indicating the burial place of some distinguished person.

There stood at one time on Skateraw shore, on a projecting piece of land north of the old lime-stone quarry, a chapel dedicated to St Dennis. Remains of the edifice were visible sixty years ago, but the sea has washed them all away. Bones found in the vicinity of the place give reason for supposing that a burying-ground was connected with the chapel. On the north-west side of Blackcastle Hill, the name of which indicates it to have been the site of a castle that has now passed away, there are the remains of an old encampment half obliterated by the plough. A field is called the Chesters to this day.

The villages in the parish are Innerwick and Thortonloch. The former is the more considerable of the two. In it the Parish Church, manse, and schoolhouse, and offices are placed. The school and schoolhouse are comparatively modern and models of what these village institutions ought to be. It is a neat and healthy village. Innerwick station is a short distance from it. Thorntonloch lies near the coast, and close to the London road. A well-known roadside public-house was long kept by Mrs Clapperton, at the bridge, but it has been given up many years since. A meal mill on the Thornton Burn has been long worked.

Walter Stewart, to whom David the First granted the manor of Innerwick, presented the church and its pertinents to the Monks of

Paisley. They retained the church until the Reformation. In 1670 Sir Peter Wedderburn obtained a grant of the rectory and vicarage tithes. The family of Nisbet of Biel were long patrons of the parish. The present church was built in 1784, and is a plain structure. It was renovated some years ago. The Rev. Mr Ogilvie was minister of Innerwick in 1722, etc. After his death a copy of several conferences and meetings written by his own hand, that past betwixt him and the ghost of Mr Maxwell, late laird of Cool, in Dumfriesshire, was found in his desk. It narrates that he encountered the ghost on the 3rd February 1722, first at Thurston, and afterwards on 5th March near Elmscleuch. The ghost told him that he was riding on Andrew Johnson, one of his tenants, who died forty-eight hours before him, and was transformed into a horse. When Mr Ogilvie got home, he told his wife what had happened to him, and as he felt unwell, he called for a dram and went to his closet to meditate upon the most astonishing adventure of his whole life.

A chap-book of 24 pages, entitled "The Laird of Cool's Ghost," used to be extensively sold by hawkers with baskets up and down the country, and was further described as being a copy of several conferences and meetings that passed between the Rev. Mr Ogilvie, late minister of the gospel at Innerwick in East Lothian, and the Ghost of Mr Maxwell, late laird of Cool. It was found in Mr Ogilvie's

closet after his death, very soon after these conferences, and written by his own hand.

The chap-book was printed at Paisley, by J. Neilson in 1811. On the first page is a figure of "Auld Nick" in a black wood-cut, with horns, wings, cloven feet, and a stick in his hand. The chap-book is now an extremely scarce and curious production. The country folk believed the lengthy conversations betwixt Mr Ogilvie and Cool's ghost to be quite true. There seems little doubt in believing that Mr Ogilvie had been troubled with an aberration of intellect, and a disordered mind. He died shortly after his interview with Cool's ghost.

The Rev. John Harvie was minister of Innerwick in 1798 up to 1817. The Rev. David Logan was appointed in 1818, and was afterwards translated to the Parish of Stenton. The Rev. Adam Forman succeeded Mr Logan. He came out at the Disruption in 1843. The Rev. Dr Alexander Patterson, lately of Glasgow, was assistant to Mr Forman in 1840, &c. He wrote the statistical account of the parish, published in 1841. The Rev. James Smellie was presented to the parish in 1843, and the Rev. John Buchanan in 1863. He died 3rd February 1892, and was succeeded by Robert Gray, B.D., a native of the county, who was ordained July 21, 1892. Rev. John Freeland was ordained minister of the Free Church of Innerwick in 1845. The names of a number of old farmers in Innerwick Parish, are still recollected. The Messrs Lee farmed Skateraw for two or three

leases. The first of the family in East Lothian was Thomas Lee, who came from Berwickshire in 1771, and entered on the farm of Thorntonloch, while his two brothers, John and William, farmed Skateraw and Crowhill respectively. They were among the first farmers in the county who grew turnips to a considerable extent in drills, the fine soil of their respective farms being very favourable to their growth. Owing to the plentifulness of sea-weed, it was then customary, where access could be obtained to the beach, to keep the coast side land constantly under grain crop, and when Mr Thomas Lee of Thorntonloch first left the fields unsown with grain that were intended for turnips, his neighbours concluded that he was unable to purchase seed corn, and prophesied a speedy termination to his lease. A few years of successful turnip culture served to convince them of their erroneous judgment, and to persuade them to farm upon similar lines.

Sir William Brereton, who travelled in Scotland in 1636, writes:—"About a mile from Dunbar we observed this husbandry; the grass, weeds, and wreck brought by the sea, and with the tide, and left upon the sands, was carried and laid thick upon the ground. This used for corn."

Mr William Bogue, came after Mr John Lee. Mr Philip Righ farmed Innerwick for a long period, and was a well known man. His brother farmed Crowhill. David Broadwood, and his father before him, farmed Crowhill and

Skateraw in conjunction with it. Mr John Brodie, an eminent agriculturist in his day, farmed Thorntonloch for a long period. Several members of his family succeeded him. Mr James C. Brodie is the present tenant. Mr William Turnbull, and his family before him, were long in Branxton. The family of Darling tenanted Westhall for a long period.

The old farm of Dryburnford, now incorporated with adjoining ones, was farmed by Thomas Dudgeon from 1763 to his death in 1775. He was succeeded by his eldest son William, who in 1782 took a second lease of the farm, he having obtained a good reputation for his skill in farming there. He possessed a good deal of humour, and many good stories used to be told of him. Among the old hill farmers there were David Roughead of Bushelhill, and afterwards Thomas Allan, both proprietors. Mr William Caverhill of Crichness, George Dods of Harehead, and proprietor of Barnside, Mr Robert Hood of Woodhall, Mr Robert Purves of Elmscleuch, &c., were other farmers. The fine estate of Thurston is of large extent. It was at one time the property of a family of the name of Cant. It has been long in the possession of the Hunter family. It includes the farms of Thurston, Thurston Mains, Woodhall, Branxton, Oldhamstocks Mains, Hoprig, &c. Mr James Hunter, a late proprietor, was a deputy-lieutenant of the county, and long a leading man in all matters connected with the county, as was also his son,

Mr James Hunter. Thurston House is a fine residence, surrounded with fine old trees.

The valuation of the parish in 1889 was £11,053.

The population in 1881 was 777. In 1891, 761, a decrease of only 16. In 1790 the population was 960. There are fifteen farms in the parish, containing 11,600 acres, of which 5000 are under tillage. Of natural pasturage 6270, of wood 375.

There are several fishing boats with their crews at Skateraw shore.

In an interesting old agricultural book published in 1778, in two volumes, entitled "Present State of Husbandry in Scotland, extracted from reports made to the Commissioners of the annexed states, and published by their authority," some interesting remarks are made respecting Innerwick farms and farmers about that period. It is now a scarce book. Mr Andrew Wight, farmer at Ormiston, a member of the old family of Wights, was appointed by the Commissioners to survey farms in the counties of Fife, Forfar, Kincardine, Perthshire, Clackmannan, East Lothian, Berwickshire, Roxburghshire, Peebles, &c. Mr Wight's report of four farms in the Parish of Innerwick in 1776, may be interesting now. Of the old farm of Dryburnford, now added to Thurston Mains, he thus writes :—"The agreeable appearance of fields, well cultivated, and covered with rich crops of corn and grass, invited me to call upon the cultivator, Mr

Dudgeon, but, unfortunately, he was from home. He is a capital farmer, of lively genius. He has visited many parts of England noted for good husbandry, and sought out knowledge from the most eminent farmers there. He was obliging enough to correspond with me, by writing on his practice of husbandry." The letters are dated Dryburnford, September 23rd, 1776, and are very interesting, narrating the methods of farming and cropping in those days. Mr Wight also reports that "Mr John Lee possessed the farm of Skateraw of 300 acres, rent 30s per acre (Scotch.) Mr Lee is from the Merse, where turnip and every new branch of husbandry is carried on with spirit. Mr William Lee farms Crowhill, which is a farm of very fertile land, vouched by his paying 36s per acre. Mr Lee is an eminent farmer. Mr Thomas Lee farms Thorntonloch, about 200 acres, rent 32s per acre. It is a fine soil, dry, having a free bottom. The Lees were all from the Merse, and were the first to raise turnips and potatoes to any extent in the Parish of Innerwick." Mr Wight says, "Here are three brothers, all men of genius, and of high enterprise. I willingly give them the praise they deserve, and am proud of welcoming them into my native county."

PARISH OF PRESTONPANS.

PRESTONPANS Parish derives its name from the circumstance of the Monks of Holyrude and Newbattle, the early superiors of the locality, having erected, as early as 1189, on the sea shore, pans for the manufacture of salt. For a long time its ecclesiastical name was Salt Preston. The most ancient name, however, seems to have been Aldhammer, but this was lost in that of Prestoun, Priestoun, Preston.

The parish in extent is one of the smallest in Scotland. It was separated from Tranent in 1606. It contains about 760 acres, and is about two and a half miles long, and one broad. It is bounded on the north by the Firth of Forth, on the east and south by Tranent, and on the west by Inveresk. It is divided from Edinburghshire by the Pinkey Burn, which enters the sea at Ravenshaugh Bridge. The old Post Road from Edinburgh to London long ago traversed the west part of the parish, and ascended the hill at Ravenshaugh Toll Bar to

Dolphinston. It was a very severe and steep one to travel. This old road is still in existence. On it, at the east gate of Drummore Mansion House, there stands to this day, an old mile stone, a square block of freestone marking the distance—from Edinburgh, 7 miles ; and from Haddington, 8 miles—a relic of olden times.

The walls of the old toll-house at Ravenshaugh still remain. The old road divides the property of Drummore from that of Prestongrange. The view from the top of the old road looking towards Edinburgh is very fine, comprehending the towns of Musselburgh, Portobello, and their links and sands on the Firth of Forth, Leith, Arthur's Seat, the Pentland Hills, Fife, &c.

The new road from Levenhall up Edgebuckling Brae to Dolphinston was made about 1816. The topographical appearance of the parish is mostly flat. From the east end and the links a very picturesque seaward view of the lands of East Lothian is to be seen ; embracing as it does, Aberlady Point and Bay, Gullane Hill, and in the distance, North Berwick Law. The opposite coast of Fife is distinctly seen over the Forth.

Coal abounds in the parish to a limited extent. Now, however, it is wrought on the west side, the mines extending below the sea. Prestongrange colliery possesses a valuable seam of excellent coal, and extends a considerable distance under the sea. It is shipped at

Morisonshaven. Shale and sandstone strata are found in plenty. The Parish of Prestonpans, although a small one, is full of interest, local, civil, and ecclesiastical. It was a place of great trade at one time in merchandise exported and imported to and from Holland, the Netherlands, France, Denmark, &c., into the port of Achesonshaven, now called Morisonshaven, which is situated a little to the westward of the town. A custom-house with its staff officers was long in existence at Prestonpans. Their jurisdiction extended from the Figgat Burn on the west to the mouth of the Tyne on the east. It was transferred to Leith in the beginning of the present century. At one time a large manufactory of vitriol and sal ammoniac was carried on. A large distillery was wrought by Messrs Cadell & Hislop. The manufacture of salt has, since the days of the Monks, been a staple trade. The potteries and stoneware works formed a very important industry, but of late years they have decreased a good deal; only one pottery now carried on by Messrs Belfield, who came from Derbyshire, is working. A large soap work has been in existence for a long period. The extensive brewery and maltings long carried on by the late John Fowler, and the Messrs Hislop was long celebrated for the fine quality of their ales. It is now vigorously carried on by a limited company, under the old firm of John Fowler & Co. The fishing fraternity furnishes a large portion of the population of Prestonpans. The oyster fishing

was at one time a very large and extensive one, but now the famous pandores, the largest and fattest kind of oysters found here, and so named through being got near the doors of the Saltpans, have, on account of the oyster beds being overfished, become scarce and dear. It is stated in the statistical account of the parish in 1841 a constant trade was maintained with Newcastle, Shields, Hartlepool, &c., of from 25,000 to 30,000 oysters during the season. The large fishing boats are manned by an energetic class of men, who go at the proper season to distant fishing grounds, such as the Lewis, Fraserburgh, Wick, the Irish Coast, Yarmouth, &c. When the whale ships from Leith and other Forth ports entered largely into that class of fishing, Prestonpans furnished its quota of the crews. The soil around is well adapted for raising fruits, vegetables, &c., in their season, and hence a number of market gardens have always been in existence. Edinburgh fruit and vegetable market is largely supplied from Prestonpans. The produce is well-known, and commands a ready sale. Dr Carlyle writes interestingly of the occupations of the females of this neighbourhood in his day, and classifies them under the heads of fish-wives, kail-wives, and salt-wives, who carried their fish, greens, and salt daily to the metropolis on their back. Prestonpans, like other seaside places, extends more or less along the coast from Ravenshaugh Bridge to Cockenzie. A number of substantial, well-built, large houses bound

each side of the streets and lanes. Within these few years a number of new tenements have been added. Towards the west end stands a small village called the Cuthill, originally belonging to the Abbey of Newbattle, where, long ago, an extensive pottery, several salt works, and a magnesia manufactory were carried on. The houses have now an antiquated appearance. Their style shows that the Cuthill must have been a place of some importance in olden times. A long row of excellent miners and workmen's houses were built some years ago. Cuthill is rather a singular name, and is spelt Cuttle, Cuthill, Cuitl, and called "The Cuttle." It contained, fifty or sixty years ago, over 300 inhabitants. It is situated on a low hill. A small burn, called the Red Burn, ran on the west side of it, and entered the sea. An old tradition has been handed down that the burn changed its course owing to a sinking of the minerals below, and cut the hill east and west in two parts, hence the name arose, corrupted from Cuthill to Cuttle and Cuitle. A small stream still crosses the road and flows into the sea.

Morisonshaven is said to have been formed by the Monks of Holyrude to export their coals and salt. It was then called Newhaven, but afterwards altered to Achesonshaven, Acheson being the patronymic of the Glencairney family who formerly possessed property in this neighbourhood. It was known as a port long before Leith, and had the privilege of the

barony, and right to levy dues and customs to the same extent as those eligible at Leith or any other port in the kingdom. The extensive colliery, brick and tile works of Prestongrange adjoin it. It belongs to the Prestongrange property. The remains of a small fort at the head of the harbour, which was destroyed by Cromwell in 1650 on his march to Leith, is still to be seen. Morisonshaven is still a harbour of importance, as large quantities of coal, fire-bricks, and large drain pipes, are constantly exported by the Prestongrange Coal and Fire-brick Company, mostly in foreign ships, to the Continent. The harbour has a depth of water of from fifteen to twenty feet at high tides, and was long considered one of the safest harbours in the Firth of Forth. The pier has been most substantially built of large square blocks of freestone as they came out of the quarries on the shore. The Prestongrange Colliery Company have added commodious wooden wharfs on the west side. A number of old quaint buildings with cran cables still remain, testifying to the antiquity of Morisonshaven. Saltworks have been long established on the seaside. The late Mr William Alexander carried on an extensive trade. The Messrs Meek succeeded him, and yearly manufacture a large quantity. An excellent inn stands about the centre of the town, and many good shops selling all kinds of merchandise are to be found.

The late Mr Fowler, commonly called

"Laird Fowler," was a well-known man in town and country in his day. The best kinds of ale he made were very strong, quite different from the weak, mild ales of the present day. There was no bitter ale in his time except his extra hopped table beer. He superintended for a long period himself the brewing operations. A story is told of him that at a mash one morning, after trying a sample of the mashed malt from the mashed tun in his mouth, and thinking it tasted rather weak, he cried to his principal man, "'Jock,' in with a boll of more malt." Saccharometers were not much used at that time. His old brewery was long ago at the back of his dwelling-house. Mr Fowler acquired a deal of land and property in Tranent and Prestonpans Parishes, and was Laird of Hallydown, a fine estate near Eyemouth.

The old-established soap work was long carried on by Messrs Paterson and now by Mr James Mellis. Prestonpans soap has been long known in the market as of first-class quality. The population of the Parish of Prestonpans has been well kept up and increased during the last three censuses. In 1881 it was 2573, in 1891 it was 2659 ; increase 86.

The village of Preston is not so extensive now as it was long ago, and is a different place from the town of Prestonpans and separate from it, although it is included in its privileges in the charter of erection as a burgh of barony granted by the crown to Sir John Hamilton, of

Preston, in 1617. The ruins of the old mansion house of the Hamiltons in the park of Schaw's Hospital still exist, especially the steps up to the front door. The ancient family of the Hamiltons of Preston were long superiors of the soil. Sir Thomas Hamilton was a lieutenant-colonel in the army raised to oppose the English Invasion in 1650 that followed on the arrival of Charles II. in Scotland. After that defeat his estates were plundered, and his castle of Preston burnt; his charter chest, containing all his family papers and title-deeds consumed. The estate, which was sold prior to the revolution of 1688, has long been parcelled out. The tower, of which the keep and garden alone remain, are the only part of the estate from which the present Sir William Hamilton, Bart., of Preston and Fingalton, takes his title, and were purchased in 1819 by Sir William Hamilton, of Preston, the eminent Professor of Moral Philosophy in Edinburgh University after making good his title to the baronetcy. The tower is a very interesting relic of olden times, and, with an old-fashioned house called the Barracks, is a prominent object to view from the railway station. It appears that the Lothians were the great centre of the extinct trade of packmen or chapmen. The guild was large, far-travelled and rich. At the foot of the fine cross of Preston the chapmen met in yearly general assembly in July, elected their king and his lords-depute for the ensuing year, for such was the style of their business proceedings,

and ordered their common affairs. The Bannatyne Club rescued the cross and its appendages from ruin many years ago, revived the guild, made gentlemen chapmen, including Sir Walter Scott, chose kings, ate guild dinners, and otherwise played themselves on the sacred spot after the manner of antiquarian good fellows. It was right to save the cross where anybody might go and see the very ink bottle cut in stone, in which the officials of the Chapmen Society were wont to dip their pens. A document is still in existence containing a list of the lord-deputies for Haddington, Dunbar, and North Berwick, from 1721 to 1753, in which they are styled "Representative Lords at the Courts of the Honourable Society of the Chapmen of the Lothians." The members were all sworn in not to take less than fourpence (a groat) per shilling, but as much more as they could get on all goods they sold, hence the saying arose, "the chapman's profit—a groat the shilling."

Drummond, in his history of "Scottish Market Crosses" thus writes of Preston Cross —"It is perhaps the purest in architectural style of any cross of the same kind." He states the height of this beautiful cross to be eleven feet six inches, and its diameter is fifteen feet. The height of the pillar or shaft and unicorns is fifteen feet. The shaft or monolith is oval in form, and graceful in its tapering, while the unicorn supporting a time obliterated coat of arms, sits daintily on the summit, freed

from age, and rust from the chain, which the patriarchs of the neighbourhood recollect as hanging from its neck. The cross stands inside the fruit orchard occupied by Mr John Wright, and, it appears, was erected about the time when Prestonpans was made a Burgh of Barony along with Preston in 1617. It was the ancient cross of the village, which extended, it is supposed, to its present site, and had been erected by some of the old family of the Hamiltons, of Preston, The late Dean Stanley after seeing the cross started a subscription to put it into creditable condition. The property belongs now to Schaw's Hospital. It is not known how the chapmen of the Lothians acquired their right about 1636, but perhaps their old records may throw some light on the date. Until these twenty years back or so the annual meeting of the Society of Chapmen of the Lothians was held at Preston Cross, and was the scene of no little innocent merry-making. The active members hailed from Edinburgh (Mr Wemyss, trunk-maker, Waterloo Place, was one of the principal hands) and invited the Magistrates of Haddington, Dunbar, and North Berwick, the Bailie of Prestonpans, and other guests to the ceremony. A yearly report with a balance-sheet of their large properties in all parts of the world was read, which included gold and diamond mines of enormous wealth in India, hundreds of miles of rivers which produced immense numbers of salmon, thousands of miles of the finest prairie

land in Illinois, and yearly shipments of the finest furs from Hudson Bay. The sums of money lying at their credit in the Bank of England amounted to over a million sterling. As in days of yore they elected their King and his deputies for the next year, with ample powers for the management of their enormous property. A dinner and jollification in the inn at Prestonpans, presided over by choice and master spirits, ended their day's festival. The Society of the Chapmen of the Lothians is now understood to be extinct. A history of it, with extracts from the old minutes, would prove a most interesting memorial of old times.

The battle betwixt Prince Charles Stuart's Highlanders and Sir John Cope's English troops on the 21st September 1745, has, in history, been called the Battle of Prestonpans. It should properly be called the Battle of Tranent, because the scene of the event was in the parish of Tranent, near the present hamlet of Meadowmill, about a mile from the town. The Highlanders descended from the high grounds on the farms of Myles and Birsley in the morning, and crossed the morass, which is, however, in the Parish of Prestonpans. Sir John Cope's troops came from Haddington and camped in the west side of the Parish of Tranent, where the Highlanders attacked them.

The fight has also been called the Battle of Gladsmuir, especially in a Jacobite ode, written by Mr William Hamilton of Bangour (see Miller's "History of Haddington," page 282).

The Parish of Gladsmuir has no claim whatever to the fact of the event having been fought within its boundaries. It was an old half-pay ensign who had served in the German wars, and who resided in Prestonpans, that suggested to Sir Walter Scott his celebrated character of Captain Dalgetty in the "Legend of Montrose."

The Rev. John Davidson was the first incumbent of the Parish of Prestonpans, after the Reformation, after having been minister of the Parish of Liberton. When there he was banished out of the country by the Regent Murray. He was driven a second time by the Regent Arran into England. He continued in Prestonpans until his death in 1604. He took an active part in the public transactions of his time, and was for some time confined in Edinburgh Castle for his opposition to prelacy. He was a man of science and warm piety, and of no inconsiderable portion of learning, united with a large share of blunt and fearless honesty which characterised the first Reformers. He left behind him collections relating to the ecclesiastical history of Scotland, with other writing, which the Court was eager to suppress. (See M'Crie's "History of Andrew Melville," page 242.)

In the Parish of Prestonpans the name of Mr Davidson must ever be honoured and precious. He was a generous benefactor to it. At his own expense he built a church, manse, a schoolhouse, and a dwelling-house for the master. In the school was taught the three learned languages—Latin, Greek, and Hebrew, and it

was in its day an illustrious seminary. Dr M'Crie further states at page 476, in appendix —"In a charter granted Nov. 19, 1615, by John Hamilton of Preston, as superior of the lands on which the kirk and school were built, it is narrated that the late Mr John Davidson had deserved highly of the whole church and commonwealth, and particularly of the parish of Saltpreston, he having preached for many years in this parish without any fee or reward, built at his own expense a splendid church (furnished with a large clock), a manse, garden, and other pertinents, with an acre of arable land for a glebe to the minister, and having resolved to sell his patrimonial inheritance, consisting of valuable houses and lands in Dunfermline, and to devote the whole produce to the support of the church and ministry of said parish, which purpose he would have carried into execution if he had not been prevented by death." Several well authenticated anecdotes are related of his prophetic powers.

Alexander Hume, the grammarian, was principal master of Mr Davidson's school, having been appointed to that office in 1606. He was a linguist of no mean order. He was the author of a Latin grammar entitled, "Grammatica nova in usum juventutis secticae ad methodum renovata," which was appointed to be used in all schools by the Privy Council and Parliament. After ten years' service in Prestonpans he was removed to Dunbar, where he taught the grammar school. Since the Revolution the

following ministers have served the cure of Prestonpans :—Mr John Moncrieff, Mr George Andrews, Mr Robert Horsburgh, Mr William Carlyle (father of the accomplished divine who for so many years ministered in the neighbouring Parish of Inveresk), Mr Matthew Reid (tranlated from Prestonkirk), Mr William Roy, Dr Joseph M'Cormack, Mr John Trotter, Dr Peter Primrose, Mr William Bruce Cunningham, Dr John Struthers, who died 24th August 1888, aged 76, and of his ministry 45 years.

A singular incident attaches to the name of Dr Peter Primrose. He was styled by his friends and co-Presbyters of Haddington, Peter Primrose, Parish Priest of Preston Pans—all P's. Mr Cunningham left the Establishment at the Disruption of 1843, and was the first minister of the Free Church of Prestonpans.

The small estate of Northfield, with its old-fashioned baronial mansion-house, was long in the possession of the family of Syme. It has been sold lately.

The estate of Prestongrange, including the lands of Dolphingston, Morisonshaven, &c., long belonged to Lady Hyndford. It is now the property of Sir George Suttie, Bart. of Balgone. Drummore has long been the property of Colonel Aitchison's family. A Captain Finlay was owner of it in 1804. Mr John F. Hislop possesses Burnrig.

In the hamlet of Dolphingston a ruin of broken walls and gables is to be seen, which is supposed to have been a monastic establishment

in its day. The ruin is surrounded by a large and fruitful mail garden. Mr Cunningham, father and son, old East Lothian farmers, were tenants of Dolphingston long ago. They were succeeded by Mr James P. Mitchell, brewer, Main Point, Edinburgh, who finished a lease.

Schaw's Hospital at Preston, erected in 1831, and situated in enclosed grounds, is well worthy of being visited and noticed by strangers. The house is built in an elegant and modern style, and contains accommodation for a good number of youths. It was founded and endowed by Dr James Schaw in 1781 as a seminary for the education of the youth of Prestonpans, those of the name of Schaw, M'Niel, Cunningham, and Stewart having a preference of entry. The institution was first opened in 1784, in Preston House, which stood behind the present erection. The funds of the hospital are understood to be large, including a deal of fine land and garden ground around it. In terms of the recent Provisional Government Order, £100 a year is fixed as a payment to the School Board of Prestonpans for assisting poor families in educating their young. The Schaw bursaries are extremely liberal, there being fifteen of the yearly value of £10 each. Three sums of £15 each are yearly given to the teachers of elementary schools in the county. There are also six scholarships, value £12 each annually, for boys, and three for girls, tenable for three years. The management of the hospital is under the direction and care of eight well-qualified and influ-

ential trustees, connected with the County of Haddington and the University of Edinburgh.

In a prominent situation near the east end of Prestonpans, immediately below the church, a massive memorial pillar, with statue on a square pedestal, has been erected to the memory of Dr Thomas Alexander, C.B., with the following inscriptions on the four sides :—"Director of the Medical Department of the British Army. Born at Preston Pans, 8th May 1812. Died 1st February 1860, aged 47. Throughout a long career he laboured incessantly to elevate the condition of the soldier, and during the Crimean war his indefatigable efforts as principal medical officer of the light division, to alleviate the sufferings of the troops were of inestimable value in stimulating others to follow his example." On another side of the pedestal are carved "West Indies, North America, Caffraria, Alma, Inkerman, Sebastopol," on other side the "Improved condition of the British Army, as well as the elevation in rank, and considerations of its officers are mainly due to his exertions. His high professional attainments and his great administrative powers were wholly devoted to the service of humanity." The figure is six feet high with sword in hand, and its heigth with pedestal about eighteen to twenty feet. It was erected in 1862, W. Brodie sculptor. He was buried immediately above the memorial. His father, William Alexander, a worthy man, died 29th February 1865, aged 79, and his mother, Helen Kemp,

who died 21st May 1865, aged 82, lie beside him. Prestonpans may be proud in having reared such a distinguished army medical man as Dr Thomas Alexander.

A singular piece of rock, pretty high at low water, on the north side of Prestonpans is called "Johnie Moat," and is a very familiar object, There is no authentic history about it.

Addendum written by the Rev. W. Bruce Cunningham, minister of the parish, and published in the statistical account of the Parishes of Haddingtonshire in 1841.

Schaw's Hospital.—Since the date of the former statistical account in which all that (in so far as I know) is important respecting the origin and objects of Schaw's Hospital is admirably narrated a new house of considerable exterior elegance and very superior accommodation has been erected. The boys have at no period since the commencement of the institution been under better control or enjoyed more real comfort than at the present time. The duties of the governor and housekeeper are performed with the most praiseworthy fidelity and prudence. The hospital with its grounds are kept with care and taste, and form a very attractive feature in the scenery of the parish. The institution is under the superintendence of nineteen trustees, twenty-four boys are admissible, and the trustees are authorised to bind them as apprentices or do according to their

wisdom for their benefit on their leaving the institution.

Considerable alterations in the management of Schaw's Hospital have been made by the new Education Act.

PARISH OF GLADSMUIR.

THIS Parish is of comparatively recent formation, having been erected in 1692 by abstractions amounting to 7165 acres, from the contiguous Parishes of Haddington, Aberlady, and Tranent. At that time it consisted largely of a rugged uncultivated ridge frequented by gleds or kites, which gave the name Gled's Muir to the lands, and from which the parochial name, Gladsmuir, is derived. Gladshot in the adjoining Parish of Haddington owes its name to the same source. It is of irregular figure and lies on the southern shore of the Firth of Forth, and is bounded by it and the Parish of Aberlady on the north ; on the west lie the Parishes of Tranent and Pencaitland; on the south, Pencaitland, Saltoun, and Haddington Parishes ; and the latter parish and Aberlady form its eastern boundary.

The southern extremity of the parish borders for a mile and a half on the River Tyne, which here flows with rapid bubbling impetuosity, which quality it loses further on in its course

when the banks widen. This part of the parish, separated from Trabroun by a neck of land belonging to Haddington Parish, which runs west nearly as far as Gladsmuir village, contains Samuelston, one of the five villages of the parish—the others being Gladsmuir, Longniddry, Penston, and Macmerry — and is connected with the larger portion of the parish by a narrow strip extending westward from Samuelston Loanhead to and including Hodges.

From the Firth of Forth on the north to the River Tyne on the south is about five miles, and from Bangley Brae Foot on the east to Briarbush, near Arniston, on the west is four and a half miles. The population in 1792, as stated by the Rev. George Hamilton in his report to Sir John Sinclair, was 1380, and had decreased thirty-five since 1755. In 1881 its population was 1747, while in 1891 it only reached 1604. This decrease is entirely attributable to the stoppage of the ironworks at Macmerry. The value of all assessable property in 1889-90 was £12,925.

From its north-western and south-eastern boundary the land rises gradually, culminating in a ridge of about 350 feet above sea-level running from east to west through the parish, and along which the Post Road from Edinburgh to Berwick runs. This ridge was at one time entirely moorland, and was nearly all included in the commonty of Gladsmuir, which belonged to the Royal Burgh of Haddington. It suffered neglect in cultivation owing to its great distance from the residences of the burgesses and

freemen who ought to have enjoyed its use. To their patrimony, however, the inhabitants of the burgh came to cast divots for their dwellings, but it would be detracting from the natural feature of this parish, if, to this fact was attributed the shallowness of the soil over a large area. Here too the wappinschaws or musterings of the men-at-arms were held in olden time, while more recently, David Leslie, after the Battle of Naseby, marched here expecting to encounter the Marquis of Montrose in the neighbourhood. Blood, however, at that time, was not to be shed on the ground, where, exactly a century later, the Stuart cause was to win a field. From Dunbar by Pencraig, the Beanstons, Abbeymains, and Bangley Braefoot, General Cope marched to meet Prince Charlie, and Gladsmuir a few hours after saw the skurry of his defeated army after their four minutes' engagement, as it had previously seen the retreat of the Scots from Cromwell's victory at Dunbar. For centuries the Town Council of Haddington frittered away money in unsuccessful endeavours to obtain on their property here coal sufficiently valuable to pay for working. Previous to the improved methods of agriculture and drainage which were the outcome of the example set by Cockburn of Ormiston, much of the parish was in a marshy state; this was notably so in the case of Chesterhall on the St Germain's estate, where, in one part of the farm, nearly twenty acres were reclaimed. The soil is clayey and

shallow along the ridge, but produces good crops of roots and cereals, while in the rest of the parish it is extremely fertile.

Only about a mile of the parish boundaries is sea-board, and that extent is very rocky, consisting of huge detached masses, and the terminations of strata appearing above the bed of the ocean at low water. At the north-eastern extremity of the shore appertaining to this parish the Coteburn enters the sea, after having flowed past Redhouse and through part of the Gosford Parks. The Cantyhall burn enters on its western extremity, and about midway between these, two small burns—one of which passes Southfield, and the other Redcoll—enter the sea near Boglehill.

The air is pure, dry, and healthy. Recently Lord Lamington, and Archibald Hay Tennant, of St Germains, have introduced a supply of water for the farms on their estates, obtained from the Tranent Water Commissioners. It will readily be understood that a parish, lying so high, and being largely undermined by coal-workings, would have considerable difficulty, where gravitation did not come to their aid, in obtaining an efficient water supply.

Coal abounds, and is worked extensively in the western part of the parish. Limestone is found in various parts, and the quantity of fossil sea shells found embedded in it enhanced its value to the farmer, but the use of lime being largely discontinued for agricultural purposes it is not now worked, and the lime-kilns

gradually getting into ruins testify to a discontinued branch of industry. Fifty years ago the Harelaw kilns were in active operation under the superintendence of Alexander Herkes. These kilns were used till May 1887. Limestone has been burned also at Longniddry, north of Elvingston. Fireclay is abundant in the parish, although its presence is not now availed of as forming an industry. Gladsmuir brickwork, a little to the east of the present village, was worked up to 1879. A brickwork existed long ago at Hodges. The clay pits lay between the present farmhouse and the Old Kirk.

Ironstone was worked at Macmerry, and first transmitted to the blast furnaces of the west. The Brothers Christie afterwards erected a blast furnace for smelting, but the enterprise proved unsuccessful, and ceased in 1874. Iron ore is found on the eastern extremity of Setonhill farm, between Coteburn and Redhouse.

Freestone is abundant, a quarry of capital stone having formerly been worked midway between Gladsmuir and Penston, and others at Westbank and Samuelston. It was all of good quality. Between Redcoll and Lendridge, and lying east and west, is a dyke of whinstone. Long ago the fish cadgers from Eyemouth and Coldingham occasionally visited Longniddry Dean to obtain supplies of "Keil," which they easily disposed of among the farmers and shepherds of the large sheep farms of the Borders.

The great geological feature of this parish, however, is its coal measures. Penston coal was wrought as far back as the 14th century. In the time of the Commonwealth it produced a revenue of £400. So remote as 1531 we find entries in the Haddington Burgh Records relating to their coal pits in Gladsmuir. In 1675 a boring was made at Rottenraw (Letham Mains), but the attempt proved abortive. In 1812 it was wrought on the Hodges property, and a final attempt was made in 1826. In 1835, while the blacksmith of Macmerry was sinking a well behind his house, he accidentally discovered a seam of parrot coal, which, in the early days of the Haddington Gas Works, formed its principal supply.

Boulders of a large size frequently form obstructions to the plough on the farms of Southfield and Greendykes.

From whichever direction we view the Parish of Gladsmuir it appears to be well wooded. Penston Wood, now all arable land lying south of Gladsmuir village, was planted in 1795 by Lady Matilda Ross Wishart, the wife of the late Admiral Sir Thomas John Cochrane, G.C.B.

The Butterdean Woods, the finely timbered parks of Elvingstone, and the sheltering patches around the various farm steadings add a sylvian appearance to what would otherwise be a bleak-looking exposed ridge.

Of the landed gentry having connection with the parish the most ancient is the family of

Baillie, of Hoprig and Penston, now represented by Lord Lamington. With perhaps a stretch of genealogical imagination this family has been asserted to be descended from the illustrious House of the Baliols, Lords of Galloway, and Kings of Scotland, but with the name changed to Baillie. Of this family a Sir William Baillie, of Lamington, was Principal Master of the Wardrobe to Queen Mary. His son, Sir William, fought for his Queen at Langside. Dying without legitimate male issue the estate went to the issue of his daughter Margaret, who had married her cousin, Edward Maxwell, third son of Lord Herries, of Terregles. Their son assumed the name of Baillie in accordance with the entail and was knighted. William Baillie, of Lamington, his successor, was the principal mover in getting the Parish of Gladsmuir formed.

Another old family connected with the parish long ago was a branch of the Douglas family, of Dalkeith, whose most prominent member was the Earl of Morton. This branch of the Douglasses had their residence at Longniddry, and were earnest and devoted supporters of the reformed religion. To their hospitable home John Knox retired after completing his university studies, and acted as tutor to Francis and George, the two sons of the house. Here, also, Alexander, the son of Cockburn, of Ormiston, participated in their studies. It was to these lads that Wishart, the Martyr, referred, when, to Knox's pressing desire to accompany

Wishart on his ill-fated journey, the latter said, "Nay, return to your bairns, and God bless you! One is sufficient for one sacrifice." On the 10th April 1547 these lads accompanied their tutor to St Andrew's Castle, in order that he might be beyond the persecutions of the Bishop of St Andrews, and that they might benefit from his instructions.

The Douglas family possessed the eastern part of Longniddry, and their estate embraced part of Harelaw, Redcoll, and Setonhill. Between fifty and sixty years ago the vaulted ground floor of their abode remained, in the shape of a circular mound of a few feet high, overgrown with turf, immediately to the east of the burn and close to the north side of the road, then bounded by the Laird's Dyke, and continued in a line with that now in use between Longniddry village and the station. Five or six plane trees in the same field mark the site of the garden of the castle.

The Laird's Dyke and Garden, and the remains of the home of the Douglas family, were eventually swept away in the course of agricultural progress.

Some of the Douglas lands became the property of the Earl of Winton, who died in 1650. He also obtained by purchase the teinds of Longniddry from Bothwell, Lord Holyroodhouse, all of which were forfeited in the Rebellion of 1715. The property was then bought by the York Buildings Company, who in turn sold it in 1778 to John Glassell, a native

of Dumfries, who, as a merchant in the West Indies, had amassed a large fortune. Joan, his only daughter, in 1820, became the wife of Lord John Campbell, who in 1839 succeeded as seventh Duke of Argyll. The estate was subsequently sold to the Earl of Wemyss. Mr Glassell had previously sold Southfield to Mr Gray, who built the present farmhouse as his own residence, from whose possession it passed to that of the late Earl of Wemyss. At the west side of the village, distant about 600 yards from the site of Douglas's residence, Longniddry House, formerly the residence of the Glassell family, stands pleasantly in its own grounds ; and, forming part of the garden wall, now completely overgrown with ivy, is part of the walls of the chapel, in which Knox is said to have regularly officiated when resident at Longniddry. Much of the land here and westward is occupied by market gardeners for the culture of vegetables, strawberries, and other fruits. Northward from the present farm-steading of Longniddry stood as many as 70 cot-houses of which not a trace now remains. The few houses constituting the village form the residences of railway employees, market gardeners, &c. Other buildings are a large school and schoolhouse, a smith's and wright's shops, and a beautiful cottage, used as a post-office. A short distance east of the village are the railway station buildings of Longniddry Junction, where the branch line for Haddington leaves the main line.

The ruined dwellings called Boglehill, north-west from Longniddry, and close to the sea-shore, are a prominent feature in the landscape. Here the geologist and botanist may spend many a pleasant hour between Dalskelly Crags and Ferney Ness.

The lands of Wheatrig, forming originally part of the Redhouse estate, and lying south-east from Longniddry, are said to have been bestowed by the Earl of Winton on Baillie of Lamington under peculiar circumstances. The Earl had been invited to dine with Baillie, and as no wheaten bread was produced at dinner the Earl inquired the reason. Baillie replied that he had no land on which he could grow wheat, and the Earl conveyed to him these lands in order that he might no longer have that excuse for the non-appearance of wheaten bread at his dinner-table. Hence the name, Wheatrigs. These lands have since passed into the possession of the Earl of Wemyss. Trabroun was long the property and residence of the Heriots, an old East Lothian family, having been granted by the Earl of Douglas to John Heriot about 1423, and continued in the possession of his descendants till the end of the reign of Charles I.

George Heriot was a great favourite with James VI., who gave him the designation of "Jingling Geordie," under which name he figures as a prominent character in Sir Walter Scott's novel, "The Fortunes of Nigel." He was goldsmith to James VI. and his jewel-

loving Queen, Anne of Denmark, and accompanied that monarch to London, where he died 1624. He left the greater part of his wealth for the founding and endowing of a hospital in Edinburgh for the maintenance and education of poor fatherless sons of freemen. From the best accounts of his life it appears that he was born at Edinburgh in June 1563, and not, as generally supposed, at Trabroun. His father, however (who was also a goldsmith) was born at Trabroun.

Mr Ainslie of Redcole purchased Elvingston and Trabroun. A brother, John Ainslie, possessed the lands of Merryhatton, which form part of the Huntington estate. The land now called Hodges, and lying between Penston and Samuelston, belonged to the Burgh of Haddington, and formed part of their common. According to tradition the town is said to have engaged in a lawsuit, and employed a Mr Hodge, a lawyer in the neighbourhood, to conduct the case for them ; and it eventually terminating in the House of Lords in their favour, the magistrates of the grateful burgh, to compensate Mr Hodges, gave him these lands, the name of which he changed from Thrieplaw to his own patronymic. Forming part of the present farmsteading, though converted into a granary, is the house formerly occupied by the Hodge family. It bears evidence of having been covered with thatch. Here Captain Patrick Gardiner obtained the hand of Mary Hodge in marriage, and their son was the good and

brave Colonel James Gardiner who was killed at the Battle of Prestonpans. The land of Hodges is a cold stiff clay, and great judgment needs to be exercised in its tillage. Strawberries and rasps of excellent quality are grown here in large quantities for the Edinburgh market. The old houses which stood where the present farm cottages now stand were known as Smuddle Hall, and for many years a well-known public-house business was carried on here. West from Hodges a few score yards are the ruins of cottages which occupied three sides of a square, and known by the name of Henmuir. Here two public-houses existed simultaneously in its palmy days. A short distance north from Henmuir, on the Penston farm, is a ruined windmill, formerly used for pumping water from the coal working. Latterly it was converted into a pigeon-cote, but its days of usefulness even for that purpose are past.

The Samuelston lands have long been in the hands of various branches of the Hamilton family, and now form part of the possessions of the Earl of Haddington. The village of Samuelston appears to have been of no inconsiderable size, but is gradually disappearing. A school is maintained by the Earl of Haddington for the benefit of the surrounding inhabitants. No vestige of the Chapel of St Nicholas, where Knox in the pre-Reformation days is said to have officiated, is to be seen, nor is its site known. John, Earl of Haddington, seems to have been an unfortunate landlord in possessing

property so largely infested with witches.

An act was passed in 1563, ordaining "That all who used witchcraft, sorcery, necromancy, or pretended skill therein, and all consulters of witches and sorcerers, should be punished capitally." John Knox, probably from experience derived from the flock he ministered to at Samuelston, was an advocate for the enforcing of this statute, as also had been Luther, who, because the Bible distinctly commands that "Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live," never doubted the existence of such personalities.

Tynninghame was a frequent rendezvous for the performance of their orgies, and Samuelston in 1661, was so much infested by them, that the Earl of Haddington, in order to appease his tenants, was under the necessity of presenting a petition to His Majesty's Commissioners, for the purpose of getting them tried by a Court of Law. A commission was granted, with powers to put to death such as were found guilty of witchcraft by confession, and for trying others suspected of the arts of darkness. The result seems to have been satisfactory to the Earl and his tenants, for the field in Samuelston where they were burnt—called the Birlie-Knowe—is situated on the south side of the village, between the Tyne and the mill dam. So early as 1591 the neighbourhood had been grievously troubled. "The tricks and tragedies," writes Sir James Melville, "the devil played then among so many men and women in this country will hardly get credit by posterity! the

history whereof, with the whole dispositions, was written by Mr James Carmichael, minister of Haddington." In 1705 the Rev. John Bell, minister of Gladsmuir (1701-1707), published anonymously "An Ingenious and Scientific discourse of witchcraft." He writes "The witches' mark is sometimes like a blue spot, or a little tet or red spot, like flea-biting. Sometimes, also, the flesh is sunk and hollow; and this is put in secret places, as among the hair of the head or eyebrows, within the lips, or under the arm-pits."

Midway between Penston and the site of the "Old Manse" the "Witches' Tree"—the traditionary meeting place of these ladies—still stands; and, although superstition is said to have retreated before the advance of education, school children still have, or until recently had a dread of climbing it, and generally avoid it.

Few parishes have undergone such changes as have occurred to the ecclesiastical fabrics of Gladsmuir since its formation into a separate parish. In 1642 it was proposed to erect the lands of Gladsmuir into a civil parish, but it was not till 1650 that a decreet was obtained, on the recommendation of the Presbytery, from the Commission for the Plantation of Kirks. The subsequent troubles in Scotland delayed the order from becoming effective, except that a kirk was built in 1659, and ready for use early in 1660, at Thrieplaw, on the west side of Kittle Knowe, the east part of Mr Hodge's property. The remains of this kirk, which

stood near the north-east corner of the field (then called the Back Moor, but now designated House Park) lying east of the present farmhouse of Hodges, were subsequently incorporated in the formation of some cottages, which, too, disappeared about 1878. In the erection of this kirk, which was designed to supply religious services to the west part of the Parish of Haddington, Mr Hodges took a principal part.

In 1690 the United Presbytery of Haddington and Dunbar recommended that the former decreet should now be made effective, and accordingly the lands of Samuelston, Penston, Elvingston, Hodges, and part of Redhouse barony, etc., were disjoined from the Parishes of Haddington, Aberlady, and Tranent, and erected into a separate parish by the Lords Commissioners, 29th July 1692; but neither manse nor glebe was formally designed till 1723. Two years afterwards a manse was erected a few yards to the south of the present one. There had, however, previously been in use a building called the Old Manse, a little to the east of Penston, and about half-a-mile to the west of the present church. This building, after being disused as a manse, was converted into a tenement of workmen's houses. It was accidentally burned down about 1866.

As the Parishes of Haddington and Tranent had contributed the largest portions to the formation of the new parish, the patronage was given in turns to the Earls of Winton and Haddington. The latter conveyed his right

soon afterwards to the Earl of Hopetoun, while the Earl of Winton's right reverted to the Crown, being lost by the same forfeiture which deprived that family of all their estates.

The heritors and elders (26th April 1692), after the necessary formalities had been gone through, made choice of Mungo Watson, then minister of the chapel at Thrieplaw, as the first minister of the parish. He had that year received calls from Tranent and Liberton, which he did not accept. In 1695 he got a new church, consisting of a nave and north transept, built on a more central site, through the liberality of Baillie of Lamington, who also gave the land for churchyard, school, schoolhouse, and garden. He also allowed the minister coals from his mine at Penston free, but this gift was withdrawn when the succession to the estates was doubtful and has never been resumed. The ivy-covered walls of this now roofless church, with its quaint bell-turret, a sundial, dated five years after the building of the kirk, form a picturesque feature in the centre of the present churchyard, where its various angles, inside of the walls and out, have been utilised as burial aisles. Other mortuary aisles, such as that of the family of Andersons of St Germains, now of Bowerhouse, Dunbar, and the Glassell family have been erected along the northern wall of the churchyard. The year after his appointment to be minister of Gladsmuir, the Rev. Mungo Watson received a call to Linlithgow, but his people being attached to him petitioned

against his removal, and the Presbytery refused to loose him from his charge, which he continued to hold till his death in 1700. His successor was John Bell, the son of a Glasgow merchant, who was translated from Broughton, and died at the early age of thirty. He, as already stated, was author of a work on witchcraft. His second son, the Rev. William Bell, became an Episcopalian minister in Edinburgh, and married Miss Morrice, the grand-daughter of Bishop White. Of the eight children of this marriage, four distinguished themselves in their respective professions, namely, Robert Bell, advocate, author of the "Scots Law Dictionary," and other works; John Bell, the first in Scotland to apply successfully the science of anatomy to practical surgery; George Joseph Bell, professor of Scots Law in the University of Edinburgh, one of the principal Clerks of Session, and author of the "Commentaries on the Laws of Scotland;" and Sir Charles Bell, F.R.S., London, the distinguished anatomist. A new and very handsome church, seated for 750 was opened on 20th October, 1839. Unfortunately it was completely gutted by fire in 1886. When restored and fitted up in modern style the number of sittings was somewhat curtailed. It now contains three memorial windows to members of the Elvingston family, and can well compare with any country parish church. A handsome and commodious manse was built in 1871. The glebe consists of about six and a quarter acres arable land, and three

acres pasture. Its proximity to the metropolis made Gladsmuir a resort for the prosecution of the nefarious practices of the body snatchers, and the old mort-guard—of a curious arched pattern—lying near the east wall of the churchyard testifies to the care the inhabitants of this parish took of their dead. Near the west wall is Peden's Stone, a local name given to what has probably been the socket for the shaft of a Cross, and on which Peden is said to have stood when preaching to the people of this parish in the Covenanting period. The prophet is said to have assured his hearers that some day the hollow of this stone would be filled with the blood of martyrs to the faith of Christ. It is averred that the sod with which the stone is covered, although frequently pulled up to expose the socket to the view of the curious, always remains green!

The church and manse, school and schoolhouse, a wright's and smith's shop, and a few other dwellings constitute the village, but within short distance are many small farms. A severe thunderstorm, which this part of the county is liable to feel the full effects of from its exposed situation, passed over the village in 1789, destroyed the school, and killed two children, besides injuring a number of others.

Of the successors of Mungo Watson, the first minister of the parish, special mention may be made of Dr William Robertson, author of the "History of Scotland," who held the living from 1744 until his translation to Edinburgh in

1758. Shortly after his appointment to Gladsmuir he distinguished himself by his talents in the General Assembly, but it was not till 1759 that he became known as a historian. Here, in the quiet of his country manse he laid the foundation of his fame as an elegant and philosophical historian. In 1790 George Hamilton, fourth son of the Rev. John Hamilton, and grandson of the Rev. William Hamilton, both of Bolton, was ordained to the Parish of Gladsmuir. He in early life had been designed for the mereantile profession, but subsequently entered the University of Edinburgh. Glasgow University in 1804 conferred D.D. upon him. He was Moderator of the General Assembly the following year, and died in 1832, in his 76th year, after having ministered for forty-three years. He was succeeded by the Rev. John Ramsay, who was translated from Ormiston. He married Mary, daughter of the Rev. Andrew Johnston, minister of Saltoun. A man of comprehensive ideas, great attainments, and fine social qualities, he was much respected in his parish, where he died on the 7th January 1871, after having been twenty years minister of Ormiston, and thirty-eight years at Gladsmuir. He was the author of "An Account of the Game of Curling," a game he was an ardent follower of. He was succeeded by the Rev. William Menzies, who was translated from Ayr, and afterwards called to Innerleithen. The Rev. William B. Turnbull, from Townhead, Glasgow, succeeded Mr Menzies in 1876.

Besides those individuals and families previously mentioned who have had an influence on this part of East Lothian may be mentioned Mr William Law, of Elvingston, Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh. His daughter Isabella became the wife of Robert Blair, minister of Athelstaneford, author of "The Grave" and other works. To the memory of his father-in-law Robert Blair dedicated a eulogistic poem. Mr William Law, his son and successor as proprietor of the Elvingston estates, was born in 1714, and, at the time of his decease, which occurred 15th December, 1806, was "Father" of the Scottish Bar, having entered as advocate in 1737. For nearly fifty years he acted as Sheriff of Haddingtonshire, where, in spite of a warm and irritable temper on the bench, his administration was always considered clear and upright. He was a strictly religious man, a warm supporter of constitutional government, and of the Established Church of Scotland, of which he was an elder for many years. It is, however, as an agriculturist that East Lothian has most reason to remember him. He was the first man to introduce the practice of harrowing wheat lands in the spring months, and thereby introducing the system now generally adopted of sowing grass seeds with grain. He was also the first landlord to carry into effect the practice of paying outgoing tenants for the manure arising from the penult crop instead of allowing them to lay it upon land intended for

carrying a crop of barley, which necessarily was their resource in former times. His son James, a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, died 3rd June 1830, aged 70 years. Several other members of the family, together with those named, lie in the mortuary aisle on the north side of the old church at Gladsmuir.

The Elvingston estate afterwards passed into the hands of the Ainslies, of Redcole, and it is to this family that the estate owes so much of its beauty. The handsome mansion house of Elvingstone was erected by the late Robert Ainslie, who died in 1888, aged 88 years. His son, Colonel James Ainslie, in command of the Royal Dragoon Guards, died at York Barracks on 8th April, 1876, at the early age of 45.

It is sixty years since the farm of Penston was in the hands of Mr John Deans, who had removed from Samuelston, where he was followed by Mr Ainslie. Penston was farmed by the Deans family for two leases, when they removed to Hedderwick in Dunbar Parish. Mr Melvin followed in Penston till his death, when the farm was let to Mr George Black, the present tenant.

The farm of Coats has long been in the tenancy of the respectable family of Tweedie, whose name has become a household word throughout the county as successful farmers. Long ago this place was farmed by Mr Carfrae, one of a race of farmers connected as such with

most of the estates in the county, and sprung from the Carfrae family who occupied the Park Farm of Yester. The word Coats or Cotes means a house or enclosure for sheep. This farm is partly in Haddington and partly in Gladsmuir Parish.

Mr Gray, of Southfield, who built as his mansion-house the present farm-house there, was one of the Justices of the Peace who met at John Glen's Inn at Tranent to ballot for the raising of the Scots Militia, which led to a dreadful riot at that place on 29th August 1797, whereby eleven persons were killed and eight wounded in an encounter with the military. Mr John Scott was for some time tenant of this place along with Hoprig and Hoprig Mains in Gladsmuir, and Craigielaw in the Parish of Aberlady. Mr Scott was succeeded in Southfield by Mr Dods, and he by Mr Wright, at the end of whose tenancy in 1861 Major Gaukroger took the first of two leases, the second of which is now current.

On Hoprig Mains Farm stood Temple House in a field still known by the name. It was burned down about a century ago, and many curious and valuable papers relating to the estate of the Baillies of Lamington were destroyed by the fire.

Lendridge was, at the latter part of the 18th century, the property of George Mylne, Esq., a member of the Lochhill family of that name, and whose ancestors had farmed on the Ballencrieff estate for a couple of centuries at

least. His father, James Mylne, was the author of a volume of poems published by Creech, of Edinburgh, in 1790. It seems that Burns was asked his opinion of these poems, which he expressed in letters addressed to Mrs Dunlop, 4th March, 1789, and to Mr Patrick Carfrae, minister of Morham, in the same year. The last of the family, Mr William Mylne, who farmed Bolton and Lochhill, sold Lendridge to Mr Ainslie, of Elvingston.

The farm of Hodges was occupied for many years by Mr Andrew Forrest, who was succeeded by Mr George Reid, of Ballencrieff, who also held Nairn's Mains as a led farm.

The tenant of Longniddry Farm, at the time of the disposal of the estate by the York Building Society, was Mr Thomas Rennie, who had farmed it for nearly thirty years. He was well-known for his extensive knowledge and assiduous attention to the different branches of operative husbandry. At the sale of the estate Mr Rennie took a lease of Airfield, in the Parish of Cranston, Mid-Lothian, from Sir John Dalrymple, Bart., which farm he rapidly brought to a highly efficient state of culture. He died at Airfield in January 1800, aged 76. He was succeeded in Longniddry by Mr Howden, who occupied it for twenty-two years and died there, when Mr Alexander Henderson became tenant and remained there till his death, a period of more than fifty years. Mr Andrew Smith, from Castlemains, Yester, then entered into occupation.

Of the tenants of other farms fifty or sixty years ago may be enumerated Mr Charles Dods, of Westbank, whose successor was Mr Charles Jameson Christie, who, along with his brother Andrew, carried on the smelting of iron ore at Macmerry. Mr Christie left for the Antipodes in 1884, and Mr Alexander Jackson, from Renfrewshire, then took a lease of the farm. Mr Archibald Cuthbertson, who married a daughter of the Rev. John Ramsay, minister of Gladsmuir, was tenant of Greendykes, and was succeeded by Mr James M. Russell from Coalstoun Mains, who left in 1884, and after a short time in the hands of the proprietor the farm was let to Mr William Gemmill, the present occupant. Hoprig and Hoprig Mains were held respectively by Mr John Kilgour and Mr Matthew Tod, they having succeeded Mr William Mylne who had occupied them both. Mr Tod was succeeded in Hoprig Mains by his nephew, Mr William Thyne, whose tenancy came to an end in 1881, when the late Mr Thomas Blair, whose son now continues the lease, entered on the farm. After Mr Kilgour's death Mr Henderson, Longniddry, undertook Hoprig as a led farm, and it continued as such until his death, when it was let to Mr John Park, who now occupies it.

The old mansion houses of East and West Adniston, which were two distinct properties, have long ago entirely disappeared. The farms were long occupied by the Emly family, who were succeeded by Mr Andrew Christie,

and on his removal they fell into the hands of Mr St Clair Cunningham, of the well-known firm of Messrs J. & J. Cunningham, Leith, all whose cultural efforts have been ably seconded and carried to a successful issue by the practical skill of Mr Robert Ferguson, for many years steward on these farms.

After Mr Dods, who held Setonhill with Southfield, emigrated to America, the farm was taken up by Mr James Black from Fifeshire, and continued by his son, Mr John Black, till his death in 1884, when the proprietor took it into his own hands.

The Simpson family ran three leases of nineteen years each as millers and farmers at Samuelston. The two mills at that place have now disappeared. The Inn (Cochrane Arms) at Gladsmuir was in the tenancy of Mr George Walker. The house has been formed into the residence of the farmer of the old inn lands.

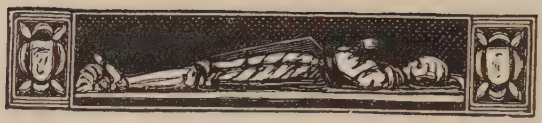
A circle of stones believed to have been connected with Druidical worship formerly existed beside the Dean near the sea at Longniddry. They have been removed in the course of agricultural improvements. Cist-vaens or stone coffins have frequently been found on the farms of Setonhill, Longniddry, and Redcole, and silver coins of different dates have occasionally been found at Greendykes and Southfield. These coins were chiefly British, and indicate that the neighbourhood was probably the site of some military station.

Standing on the highway near Gladsmuir

Church, and surveying the field embraced under the title of Gladsmuir as a whole, our eye is struck by the beauty of the parish, and the appropriateness of the poet's lines when he exclaims :—

> Ever charming, ever new,
> When will the landscape tire the view?
> The fountain's fall, the river's flow,
> The woody valley, warm and low—
> The windy summit, wild and high,
> Roughly rushing to the sky—
> The pleasant dell, the ruined tower,
> The naked rock, the shady bower,
> The town and village, dome and farm,
> Each lends to each a double charm
> Like pearls upon an Ethiop's arm.

And as we scan the distance we observe to the north the silver sheen of the Firth, and beyond it the Kingdom of Fife, the Lomonds and Largo Law, and even the outlines of the Grampians. The Garleton Hills, North Berwick Law, Bass Rock, and Traprain Law appear to the east. Southward is the vale of Tyne, and the long slope of rich arable land interspersed among the rich woodland which stretches away till it is backed up by the dark range of the Lammermoors. On the west we see the Ochils, some distant hills of Dumbarton and Perthshire, and readily recognise Ben Lomond, while seemingly close at hand lie the Pentlands with Edinburgh and Leith snugly nestled neath the abrupt termination of Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Crags.



PARISH OF OLDHAMSTOCKS.

THIS Parish takes its name from the village of Oldhamstocks where the Parish Church is situated. In ancient charters the name appears as Auldhamestocks and Aldhamstok, presumably from *Aldham*, the old habitation ; and *Stoc*, a place. The village is situated about eight miles from Dunbar, and near the middle of the long side of an L-shaped parish—the short side of which runs nearly parallel to, and but a short distance east of, the Monynut Burn in the Eastern Lammermoors.

From north-east to south-west the parish is about six miles in length, and averages little more than two miles in breadth. Its area is 6602 acres. On the north and west it is bounded by the Parish of Innerwick, while on the south lies the Berwickshire Parish of Cockburnspath, and eastward lies the German Ocean. A detached part consisting of the lands of Butterdean, lying on the northern side of the Eye Water, in Berwickshire, has recently, by the action of the Boundary Commissioners,

been added to Coldingham in that county, while Luckieshiels, a wholly pastoral farm belonging to Captain Milne Holme, and Nether Monynut have been transferred from that county to Oldhamstocks. Nearly the whole of the buildings connected with the railway station at Grant's House, until these changes were made, lay in Oldhamstocks Parish, and the people from Butterdean about sixty to seventy years ago faithfully attended the Sacraments in the church in their own parish, but began to discontinue the custom some thirty years ago.

There is about a mile and a-half of sea coast connected with Oldhamstocks near to which the soil is extremely fertile. Further inland the rounded knowes give place to the off-shoots of the eastern extremity of the Lammermoors; yet, except in the most precipitous of these elevations, or in the extreme south-western part of the parish, or where they are covered with timber, these all come under the plough as required. The south-western part is very hilly and consists largely of heathy moorland.

Limestone, freestone, and ironstone are found, and a seam of coal also runs through part of the parish. Saltworks were long ago carried on at the shore near Bilsdean, but all that remains to keep us in mind of the fact is a prominent rock still called Salt-pan Rock, and a field called Serpent Hall, which is a corruption of Salt-pan Hall, where the people who followed that employment lived. Upwards of sixty years ago when Mr Miller, who came from the mining

village of Shoreswood, near Norham, Northumberland, farmed Birnieknowes, he drove a horizontal shaft for coal from a low level in Dunglass Dean through Dunglass Wood and Birnieknowes farm as far as Lawfield. The working was discontinued through coal being obtained cheaper from the collieries in the west part of the county. On the Springfield and Oldhamstocks Mains farms, the present proprietor, Mr Hunter, of Thurston, had geological examinations made into the strata of hematite iron ore. It was concluded after sinking shafts of about twenty feet deep that there was not sufficient quantity to pay working.

The population in 1791 was 468, in 1801 it reached 575, and in 1891 amounted to 529, being a decrease of 39 from the previous census of 1881. Its rateable value in 1889-90 was £4431, a considerable decrease from that of the immediately preceding years. Further reductions have since been made by the disjunction of Butterdean in Berwickshire.

The village of Oldhamstocks consists of a single row of houses occupying a terrace on the top of the steep north bank of the Oldhamstocks Burn. This burn is formed by the united rivulets which rise on the eastern slope of the eastern watershed of the Monynut Water, and is remarkable for the depth of the bed it has scooped out for itself, and its consequently precipitous banks. Further on its course it is joined by the Berwick Burn, so called because throughout its course it divides Berwickshire

from East Lothian, when the united waters are termed the Dean Burn, and still form the boundary to the sea between the two counties. Two mills on the Oldhamstocks Burn, and a third on the Dean Burn, immediately after its entry into the Dunglass property, have entirely disappeared. Dunglass Mill, near where the combined burns disembogue into the ocean, is still working.

At the west end is the village green, round which are grouped the Parish and Free Churches and their respective manses, and the school and schoolhouse. The congregation of the Free Church now worship at Cockburnspath village. At the east end of the village stands a tenement which was formerly the inn of the village, and goes by the name of Cromwell Hall. It is said that Cromwell on his way to Dunbar could not cross the Dean lower down, and had to march this far up the burn and take an extremely circuitous route. He slept all night at the inn, and the room he there occupied is still called Abraham's Bosom, from the remark he made to the inquiry next morning as to how he had slept, "As sweetly as though I had lain in Abraham's bosom." This house was much frequented by drovers, tinkers, and pedlars in their excursions through the county, and when the fairs, which fell on the first Tuesdays of July and November, were held, the produce of the spinning wheels of the farmers' and shepherds' wives and daughters was exchanged here for the finished goods

of the weavers. The land formerly belonging to the inn has been added to the farm of Springfield.

The Parish Church consists of a nave and north transept. At the west end of the nave is a small tower surmounted with a bell-cot. On the south side of the tower is a quaint sun-dial. It consists of the meridian section of what is known as a universal dial, and the gnomon and plane are formed of one solid stone. At the east end of the church there is what has probably been a mortuary aisle, though some have thought it to have been the chancel of an earlier fabric than the existing building, with arched roof inside, covered with stone slabs, and having a very fine light of two mullions at the east end, and a door to the south side. On the south side of this window is a tympanum set in a plain stone moulding, containing the coat of arms of the Hepburns of Blackcastle, and the initials T. H. above, and M. S. and the date 1581 below. By some of the people of the parish these have been fondly believed to be the initials of the notorious Hepburn, Earl of Bothwell, and Mary Stuart, Queen of Scotland, who, some maintain, were proclaimed for marriage in this church. They are, however, the initials of Thomas Hepburn, the first minister of Oldhamstocks after the Reformation, and Margaret Sinclair, his wife, who subsequently became the wife of Walter Hay, one of the early post-reformation ministers of Bathens, or Yester. On the north side of

the same window is an escutcheon of the Hepburn above named, who was a cousin of the Earl of Bothwell, with the motto "I keep traist."

On the south side of the churchyard is a small watch-house—a survival of the period when the transactions of Burke and Hare were disclosed —now used as a session-house. It was erected by Mrs Agnes Moore, the wife of a former minister of the parish. The appropriate quotation from Jeremiah xxxi., and verse 40, which is cut on the dedication stone shows its original purpose—"And the whole valley of the dead bodies, and of the ashes, shall be holy unto the Lord; it shall not be plucked up, nor thrown down any more for ever." Many quaintly carved stones, some of which are adorned with grotesque figures, and obsolete implements of husbandry or housewifery are to be seen, and more modern memorials of families well known in the agricultural circles of East Lothian down to half a century ago. Some of the ash trees in the churchyard must have stood for at least three hundred years. The church is repeatedly stated to have been erected in 1701; an error probably derived from that date appearing on the lintel of the inner door of the porch. The fabric, however, is much older, and the date is that of the year of extensive repairs and an allocation of spaces.

The shaft of the Market Cross, of about eight feet in length, with chamfered corners, stands in the garden of the manse. On the north

side of the church, and on the opposite side of the road, stood Blackcastle, the seat of a branch of the powerful Hepburn family. Nearly all the feus in the village have reverted to the superior, Mr Hunter of Thurston. Amongst those still to lapse is a tenant belonging to the Swanston family. Peter Swanston, of the Highlaws, died in 1833. His son George died in London in 1875, and Alexander, another son, sometime member of Parliament for Bandon, died in 1882, and are all buried here. As merchants in the Canary Islands they were very successful. The beautifully sweet-toned bell of the church was a gift of this family, and it is said they caused twenty-five pounds worth of silver to be mixed amongst the bell metal out of which it was casted.

The family of Broadwoods, who were long wrights in the village, were also feuars. One of them went to London, and getting into the case-making department of a firm of pianoforte makers, he speedily rose in the estimation of his employers, married his master's daughter, and founded the famous firm of Broadwood of pianoforte fame. Several of this family are interred here, as also are many families that held lands in this neighbourhood either as proprietors or as tenants. We find four branches of the Dods family, namely, the Dods of Stotencleuch, of Stoneypath Tower, of The Brunt, and of Cocklaw. The Wauchopes of Stotencleuch, the Fenders of Fernilee in the early part of the eighteenth century, the Sleighs

of Thorntonloch and Crowhill, and many other notable families of the past are also resting in this place.

The means of communication with larger centres of trade, and the competition in every trade which necessitates the delivery of goods at one's own door has caused the small shops of the rural villages to disappear. About sixty years ago there were four or five of these small provision shops, while Mr Alexander Manderson, was only one among several cartwrights noted for genuine and substantial workmanship. It has been remarked that an Oldhamstocks make of cart-body and a Samuelston made cart-wheel were everlasting. The village also possessed two smiths, a tailor, and several weavers. The Parochial School was in the hands of Robert Boyd, an able and good man, whose monument in the churchyard records his death in 1865. Places of education were also maintained at Bilsdean. A colony of weavers used to exist at Mid Monynut, while at Bilsdean Creek a few boats obtained employment in fishing. The village green still remains to the inhabitants, but Oldhamstocks Common, which was extensive, was divided among the landed prorietors of the parish.

The history of the parish is very obscure, but the greater part of the lands seems to have been for a long period in the hands of the Homes—descendants of the ancient Earls of Dunbar and March. Half of Oldhamstocks was forfeited by Alexander Stuart of Strathern in 1335. The

barony of Dunglass, and the lands of that name, were obtained by the Homes through marriage with Nicolas Pepdie, the heiress of Dunglass, in the fourteenth century, in the reign of Robert the III. A descendant, Sir Alexander Home, was created a lord of Parliament, by the title of Lord Home, 2nd August 1473.

On the 11th of December 1532, Henry Algernon Percy, sixth Earl of Northumberland, made a raid across the border, and in an account of this raid, in a letter to Henry VIII., he writes—"According to your most dread commandment for me to invade the realm of Scotland, and there to destroy, waste, and burn corn and towns to their most annoyances," he invaded the Merse, and Dunglass Tower being stored with "great multitude of goods, corn, and cattle," they burnt it down, "and at daybreak they burnt and wasted the town and the corn there, and also the town and corn of Aldhamstokes, Cobbirspeth, the two towns of Hopryggs, Old Camers, and the towns of Reidtlewes." They then returned to England, "Thankes be to God, without loss or hurt, there being not one pell, gentleman's house, nor grange, unbrynt or destroyed. At this invasion there ys taken many Scottesmen prisoners, there was seized 2000 nowt and above, 4000 sheep and above, with all the insight, coin, implements of husbandry, esteemed to a great sum."

Alexander, the sixth Lord Home, on the 4th

March 1605, was created Earl of Home and Baron Dunglass, which titles still exist. He stood high in the favour of his sovereign, and when, in 1603, James VI. left Edinburgh he made his first stay at Lord Home's castle at Dunglass, and was accompanied by his host to London. Tradition points out the place where the wheel of His Majesty's carriage broke down, which event retarded his progress and necessitated his becoming the royal guest of Lord Home. Tradition, however, further asserts that, dissatisfied with his accommodation at Dunglass, James moved up the burn to Blackcastle and slept there, in the stronghold of the relatives of his quondam stepfather, James Hepburn, Earl of Bothwell.

In July of 1640, the disbanded army, which the year previously had from Duns Law induced King Charles I. to make treaties of peace instead of risking a battle, was called together again, and Leslie once more found himself at the head of a fine army. He and his troops on the 20th August of that year left Thomas, second Earl of Haddington, at Dunglass, crossed the Tweed at Coldstream, marched to Newburn-on-Tyne, and defeated the King's troops there. The Earl of Haddington was left in charge of the fort of Dunglass to watch the movements of the Royalist garrison at Berwick. On the 30th August, when he was standing in the court of the castle, surrounded by several gentlemen, to whom he was reading a letter he had just received from General Leslie (who two days

before had fought the battle of Newburn-on-Tyne), the magazine blew up, and in an instant one of the side walls overwhelmed him and all his company, with the exception of four, who were thrown by the force of the explosion to a considerable distance. The body of the Earl was found among the rubbish, and was buried at Tyninghame. With the Earl perished two of his brothers, and Sir James Hamilton, of Redhouse, his cousin-german; Sir Alexander Hamilton of Innerwick, and Alexander, his son and heir, whose burial place is marked in the churchyard of Innerwick by a stone; Sir Alexander Erskine and Patrick Erskine, sons of the Earl of Mar; Sir Gideon Banks of Lochend, and others. This tragic occurrence is said to have been caused by a page-boy, who, in revenge of some insult or grievance, lit the barrel of gunpowder in the magazine and perished with the lot.

In the ancient Taxatio the Parish Church is rated at the high value of 60 merks, while in Bagimont's Roll it appears at £10. In 1755 the minister's stipend was returned at £83 1s 1d, and in 1798 at £123 6s 5d. On the 17th July 1127, Aldulph, the Presbyter of Aldehamstoc witnessed a charter of Robert, the Bishop of St Andrews, to the monks of St Cuthbert at Coldingham. The church was dedicated 14 calends of November 1242 by Bishop David of St Andrews. On 28th August 1296, Thomas de Huntingour, parson of Odhamstock, swore fealty to Edward I. at Berwick, and was there-

upon restored to his rectory. This church never belonged to any monastery, and is recorded as an existing rectory in the Archbishop Roll of 1547.

At the Reformation, Thomas Hepburn was one of those thought by the first General Assembly apt and able to minister, and was appointed to this parish. In 1567 he waited on Mr John Craig, formerly of Holyrood House, and requested his services in proclaiming Queen Mary in marriage with the notorious Bothwell. On the 17th May 1567, and just two days after this marriage was consummated, "Maister Thomas Hepburn, persoun of Auldhampstokkis, wes chosin and admittet be the Quenis Majestie to the office of Maister of Requestis, and gave his oath for due using and administration thairof." After the flight of his patron, the Earl of Bothwell, the parson joined those who held Dunbar Castle against the Regent, and these rebels continued to hold the castle for several months. On the 18th August 1568 he was with others prosecuted in Parliament for aiding the Queen in making her escape from Lochleven Castle, and forfeited. This forfeiture was rescinded by Parliament, 25th July 1578. He had, however, previously been discharged from the ministry by the General Assembly in 1576 for teaching "that no soul entereth heaven until the latter judgment." In 1580 he returned to his parish, and died 7th June 1585. By his wife, Margaret Sinclair, he had a son, Thomas, who was afterwards minister of the parish. In

1627, while the latter discharged his duties here there were "four hundredth communicants." He died in 1629.

Another Thomas Hepburn occupied this living from 1642 till he died, 9th May 1671, aged about 55 years. His successor, the Rev. John Gibson, was deposed in 1690 for drunkenness. The sermon preached at Oldhamstocks by Mr J. Clerk, on the 28th September of that year, on the occasion of the intimation of the sentence of deposition, was printed at Edinburgh at that time, and is now highly prized by the biblio-maniac. During the incumbency of his successor, Mr John Currie, the present church was restored. Mr Currie was translated to Haddington in 1704, and was succeeded here by the Rev. Harry Robertson, who resigned in 1731. John Lundie, the eldest son of the minister of Saltoun succeeded him, the presentation to the living being then in the hands of Lord Alexander Hay of Lawfield. With the stipend accruing from a vacancy in the parish the patron purchased two handsome silver communion cups, which, with the Tweeddale coat of arms, and a suitable dedicatory inscription, bear the date 1709. John Cochrane succeeded Mr Lundie, and, dying at an early age in 1796, he was succeeded by Robert Moore, who was presented to the incumbency by Robert Hunter, Esq. of Thurston. He was thrice married, and by his second wife, Margaret, daughter of the Rev. Daniel M'Queen of Prestonkirk, he had two sons, John Wardrop Moore and Daniel

M'Queen Moore. The former became assistant-surgeon in the 37th Regiment, while the latter farmed Birnie Knowes in this parish. The Rev. Robert Moore died in 1846, in his 87th year, and the 50th of his ministry. He was succeeded by the Rev. Thomas Mitchell, who was for 29 years minister, and died 25th August 1875, when the Rev. W. M. Hutton was translated from Cranshaws to this charge.

Thomas Hepburn, the first post-Reformation minister of Oldhamstocks, had a son named James Bonaventura Hepburn (the second name being a sobriquet obtained from his travels), a celebrated linguist. He was born at Oldhamstocks on 14th July 1573. Educated in the reformed religion, he had hardly completed his academical studies when he became a convert to Popery. He shortly after passed over to France, and travelled thereafter in Italy, Turkey, Persia, Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Ethiopia, and most of the countries in the East, acquiring languages, of which he is said to have made himself acquainted with no less than seventy-two! Upon his return to Europe he entered into a convent of Minims, an order of Franciscans at Avignon, where he resided some time, after which he removed to Rome, and retired into the monastery of the Holy Trinity. Pope Paul V., hearing of his great acquisitions in Oriental languages appointed him librarian of the Oriental books and manuscripts in the Vatican, in which office he continued six years. After 1620 he went to Venice to translate some

Hebrew, Syriac, and Chaldaic writings, and died there the following year. His writings, compilations, and translations amount to twenty-nine works.

The family of Hall of Dunglass have furnished several members who have distinguished themselves in various walks of life. John Hall, one of the bailies of Edinburgh, and afterwards Lord Provost of that city, was created a baronet in 1687, and obtained the extensive barony of Dunglass. His great grandson, Sir James Hall, was the eldest son of Sir John, the third baronet, by his wife Magdalen, daughter of Sir Robert Pringle, Bart. of Stitchell, Berwickshire, and was born at Dunglass, January 17th, 1761. On the death of his father he succeeded to the baronetcy, 3rd July 1776. He studied at Christ's College, Cambridge, afterwards travelled on the Continent, and resumed his studies at Edinburgh University. He again travelled on the Continent, and at Brienne, in France, became the fellow-student of the Emperor Napoleon, who many years afterwards told Sir James' second son, Captain Basil Hall, when at St Helena, that Sir James was the first native of Great Britain whom he recollected to have seen. On his return to Scotland Sir James devoted himself to geological investigations, and chemical experiments connected therewith; became President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and was the author of various works on architecture and the sciences. In 1808 he was returned member of Parliament

for the borough of St Michael's, in Cornwall, which he continued to be till 1812, when he retired. He married Lady Helen Douglas, second daughter of Dunbar, third Earl of Selkirk, by whom he had three sons and three daughters. He died at Edinburgh, after a long illness, 23rd June 1832. His second son, Captain Basil Hall, R.N., was born at Edinburgh in 1788. He entered the Royal Navy in 1802, and six years afterwards received his first commission as lieutenant. When posted on the East India station he accompanied Sir Samuel Hood, the admiral, on a journey over a large part of the Island of Java. In 1816 he accompanied the embassy of Lord Amherst to China, and on their return visited and explored the West Coast of Corea, and the Great Loo-Choo Islands, of which he afterwards gave an interesting account in a book describing this voyage of discovery. He distinguished himself by the composition of other books of travel, written with delighful ease, spirit, and picturesqueness. He visited and wrote upon the Coasts of Chili, Peru, and Mexico, and, as has been stated, visited the exiled Napoleon at St Helena; then travelled in the United States of North America; visited Italy and Austria and other European countries. He was one of those persons who made a memorandum of everything he saw or heard worth noting, with a view of publishing it. In Lockhart's "Life of Scott" we read that at Abbotsford at Christmas 1824, "One of the guests was Captain Basil Hall, always an agree-

able one ; a traveller and a *savant*, full of stories and theories, inexhaustible in spirits, curiosity, and enthusiasm. Sir Walter was surprised and a little annoyed on observing that the captain kept a notebook on his knee while at table, but made no remark." It was Captain Hall's suggestion to Sir James Graham, then First Lord of the Admiralty, that induced the Government to place at the disposal of Sir Walter Scott the Barham frigate to convey the novelist to the Mediterranean when the state of his health rendered it necessary that he should cease all literary work. Sir Walter embarked at Portsmouth on the 27th October 1831, and Captain Hall was there to show him all the attention in his power. In the third series of " Fragments of Voyages " some interesting details are given of the great novelist's departure. This popular author died at Haslar Hospital, Portsmouth, 11th September 1844, aged fifty-six years, leaving a son and daughter.

Dunglass House, the elegant mansion of Sir Basil Hall, stands on the west precipitous banks of the Dean Burn, and occupies the site of the castle or fortress of Dunglass which occupied so important a part in the wars of Scotland. Part of the ancient " Keep " is incorporated in the present graceful building which stands on a labyrinth of dark, damp, underground cellars and passages, which extend a considerabie way under the lawn and policies to the westward. The tower is surmounted with a graceful and airy-looking structure, used as a repository of

the curious objects brought home from foreign travels by the late Captain Basil Hall. The dining-room contains a good selection of the family portraits, but these only hold a secondary place in value when compared with the extensive collection of valuable engravings everywhere adorning the walls of vestibule, hall, and staircase.

A few yards to the north of the front entrance stands the chapel of the ancient Castle of Dunglass, erected about the middle of the 14th century by the first Hume possessors. It consists of nave, choir, and transepts cruciform, while a small transept has been thrown out of the north side of the chancel. The south transept is used as the burial vault of the Dunglass family. The sedilia are of elegant design and recessed in the south wall of the chancel, while near to them is a hole into which an ill-fitting stone has been inserted subsequent to the removal of the piscina from that place. A small ambre is in the opposite wall. Many of the beautiful features it possessed when fresh from the builders' hands can still be traced, yet one regrets to see also how much it has suffered. The stones of what was once a beautiful west window, lie shattered and half-covered up by the rank grass growing around, and the great east window has entirely disappeared. When we read the following account of its desecration we tremble to think how near an escape this beautiful relic with its sturdy tower had.

In the "Domestic Annals," Volume III., p. 370, we read:—"May 1712. Wodrow notes at this times a piece of bad taste on the part of Sir James Hall, of Dunglass, whose family had in recent times acquired by purchase that ancient possession of the Home family. The old burial-place of the Earls of Home had been turned by Sir James into a stable; and he resisted both the clamour of the public and the private remonstrance of the aggrieved family on the subject. Because the minister showed some dislike to him on this account he is very uneasy to him. An English tourist visited Cockburnspath in 1711. He found that Sir James had gathered off all the grave-stones from the churchyard, to give scope for the growing of grass. He had made the nave of the church a stall for his coach-horses, and dug up the graves of the dead, throwing away their bones, to make way for a pavement for his horses. He has made the choir a coach-house, and broken down the great east end wall to make a great gate to let his coaches in. The turret is a pigeon-house, and over this new stable he has made a granary. There is also a building called an aisle adjoining the north side of the church, which is still a burying-place, in which Sir James keeps hay for his horses, though his own first lady, who was daughter to Sir Patrick Home, and his only son, lie buried there."

Few places can boast of so much wealth of Nature's beauty as Dunglass. Its dean is a poem in trees, water, rock, scaur, flower, and

fern, and is not even surpassed for beauty by the far-famed Pease Dean which is on the same estate about a couple of miles to the east.

Mr Hunter of Thurston; Sir Basil Hall of Dunglass; and Mr Balfour of Whittinghame, are the largest proprietors in the parish, and of these Sir Basil Hall is the only one resident in the parish.

Stotencleuch (the terminal syllables being given to distinguish it from Stot, a small hamlet near Dunglass) in the 17th century belonged to the Wauchopes of Stotencleuch. It afterwards passed into the Dods family, who disposed of it a few years ago to Mr Balfour of Whittinghame. Mr Thomas Dods farmed it for several years after Mr Balfour became its proprietor.

Mr Balfour also possesses Cocklaw and Woollands in this parish, besides Butterdean lately disjoined. Mr Archibald Stewart of Hosecot, Roxburghshire, succeeded Mr David Denholm as tenant of the farm of Woollands, then Mr Wilson, of Chapelhill, entered upon it and farms it along with Stotencleuch.

George and William Purves were joint tenants of Cocklaw, and when William left he was succeeded by Mr Scott, of Garvald Mains, after whose death his brother-in-law, Mr Black, brought the lease to a close, when Mr Riddell entered as tenant.

Thorntonloch, in Innerwick Parish, and Birnie Knowes belonged to the Dunglass family, but they sold the two farms to the Dirleton family, reserving only the right of

working the lime. A costly litigation ensued about the burning of lime for other purposes than that of liming the land or building on the Dunglass estate. Daniel M'Queen Moore was long tenant of Birnie Knowes, and was succeeded by Mr Miller, a cousin of Mr William Miller, of Oldhamstocks Mains. Mr Scott succeeded to Birnie Knowes, and got Palmerton joined to it as one farm. His landlord wanted the united farms to be known by the name of Birnie Knowes, while Mr Scott was as desirous to have it named Palmerton. At the end of the lease he could not get a renewal, and went to Newtonlees, in Dunbar Parish. Thomas Hood farmed Dunglass Mill and Pathhead farm, in Cockburnspath, and his descendants now occupy the Linnhead farm in the same parish.

Besides possessing Lawfield, Lord Alexander Hay also was proprietor of Oldhamstocks Mains and Springfield, all of which passed to Mr Hunter of Thurston by purchase. Linkhead, on the Lawfield farm, is the only licensed establishment for the sale of ale and porter in the parish.

Mr William Miller, who almost finished his second lease of Oldhamstocks Mains and Springfield, was succeeded by the Messrs Clark, who entered in 1849. Since their occupation of the farm they have made it famous through their successful breeding of high-class Border Leicesters. It is unfortunate that the farms afford so little natural

or artificial shelter for their purpose. Cist-vaens have been found on rising ground south of Springfield farm steading.

Lawfield was held for about fifty years by Mr Peter Halyburton Hume. His father formerly farmed Newtonlees. Of commanding appearance, an ardent supporter of the yeomanry, and of good address, Mr Hume was well known in the county. He gave up farming about twelve years ago, and retired to Dunbar, his native town, where he died. He was for nearly fifty years an elder in Oldhamstocks Church. He claimed kinship with Judge Halyburton. William Hamilton Ritchie, banker, Dunbar, was a feuar in Oldhamstocks village, and the house property held there by the late Mr Wardrope Moore is now held by Captain Moore, of High Blantyre, Renfrewshire.

FINIS.

WM. SINCLAIR, MARKET STREET, HADDINGTON.